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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA, A.C.T.

MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

MARCH, 1950.

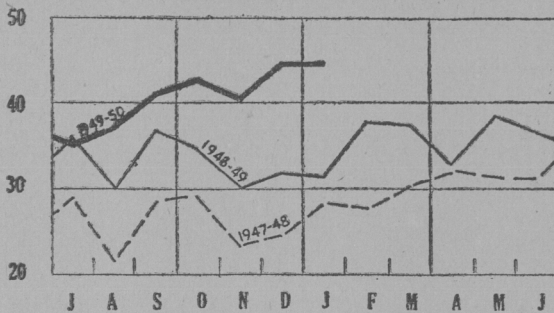
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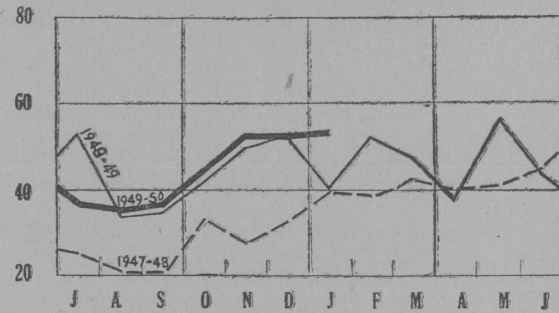
BY

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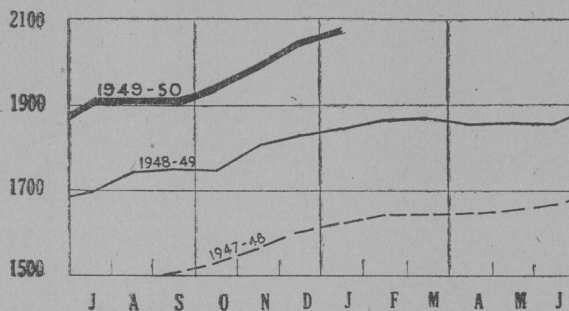
£m. A. £s. IMPORTS of MERCHANDISE : AUSTRALIA



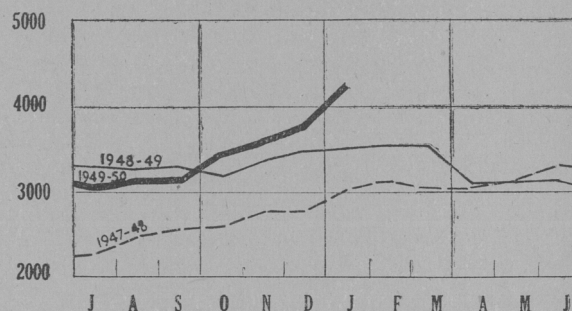
£m. A. £s. EXPORTS of MERCHANDISE : AUSTRALIA



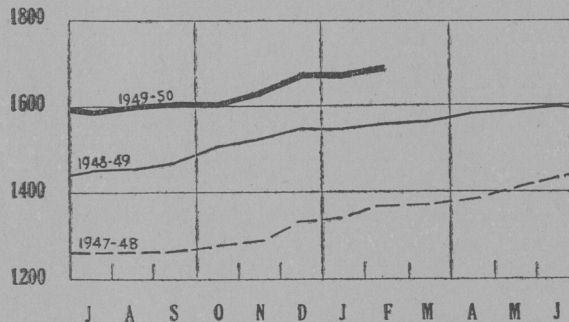
Index No. WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX: BASIC MATERIALS and FOODS
AVERAGE 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 1000



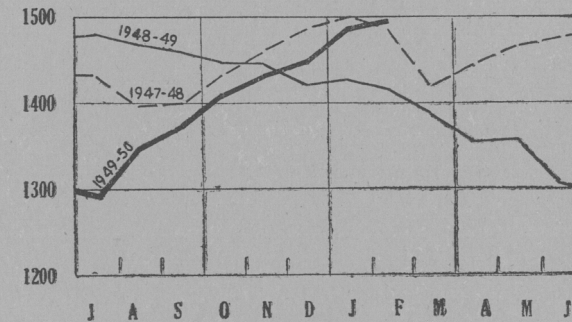
Index No. EXPORT PRICE INDEX: AUSTRALIA
AVERAGE 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 1000



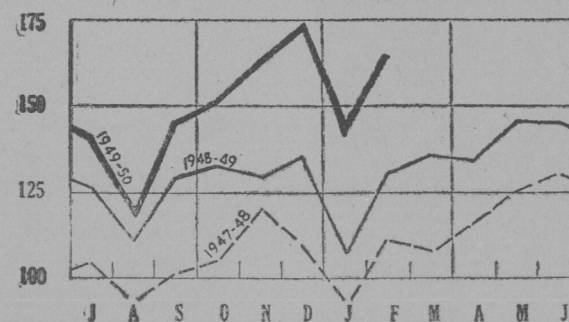
Index No. RETAIL PRICE INDEX—FOOD and GROCERIES: SIX CAPITALS
AVERAGE 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 1000



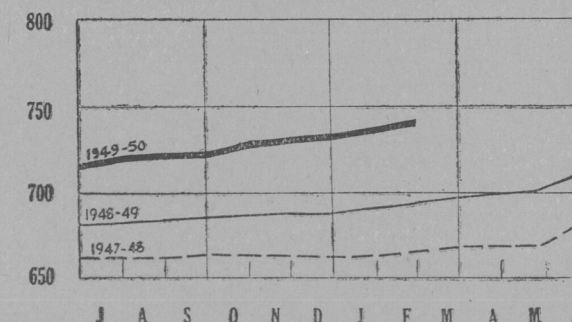
Index No. ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX (SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
AVERAGE 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 1000



£m. WEEKLY AVERAGE BANK CLEARINGS: SIX CAPITALS



£m. SAVINGS BANKS: DEPOSITS



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The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

.. Not available.
 — Nil or less than half the final digit shown.
 * Figure or series revised.
 † Figure or series subject to revision.
 — Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following table summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein:—

Period.	Employment—Australia.(a)					Average Weekly Wage Earnings— Australia : Index No. (Base : 1945-46= 1000) (d).	Wholesale Trade— Australia ; Net Sales Recorded Under Sales Tax Acts. (e)	Mainland State Railways Gross Revenue (e)	
	Estimated Total— All Employment.	Total—end of month (Excluding Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces). (See note (b) below.)			Factories : Number of Persons Employed. (c)				Retail Stores : Index No. (Base : July, 1933 = 1000).
		Males.	Females.	Total.					
	'000. (f)1,644	'000. (f)992	'000. (f)341	'000. (f)1,333	'000. 352	(g)1000	£ millions.	£'000.	
1932-33 ..	..	..	..	..	499	1247	29.1	3,017	
1936-37 ..	..	..	..	..	536	1283	37.2	3,407	
1937-38 ..	..	..	..	..	542	1300	40.6	3,632	
1938-39 ..	(h)2,061	(h)1,293 (i)	(h)437 (i)	(h)1,730 (i)	..	..	39.8	3,580	
1942-43 ..	(j)2,141	1,289	625	1,914	739	1163	988	49.7	6,615
1943-44 ..	(k)2,104	1,274	640	1,914	745	1104	1028	50.5	6,434
1944-45 ..	(l)2,115	1,284	626	1,910	727	1138	1013	52.3	5,869
1945-46 ..	†m2,344	1,379	602	1,981	718	1267	1000	55.7	5,576
1946-47 ..	†n2,481	1,592	610	2,202	776	1448	1035	66.8	5,303
1947-48 ..	..	1,693	635	2,328	816	1559	1159	79.5	6,376
1948-49 ..	..	1,757	656	2,413	840	1678	1321	93.4	7,174
1947-48—									(o)
February ..	..	1,686	635	2,321	815	1567	1172	76.6	5,471
March ..	..	1,695	640	2,335	819	1583	1197	82.0	6,105
April ..	..	1,717	641	2,358	829	1594	1216	87.5	6,673
May ..	..	1,725	642	2,367	830	1610	1209	81.2	6,936
June ..	..	1,731	644	2,375	833	1622	1230	89.3	6,944
1948-49—									
July ..	..	1,733	645	2,378	834	1629	1270	90.7	6,669
August ..	..	1,735	646	2,381	835	1634	1273	91.5	7,109
September ..	..	1,739	651	2,390	837	1642	1302	97.3	7,255
October ..	..	1,741	654	2,395	838	1653	1292	92.6	7,242
November ..	..	1,749	659	2,408	841	1698	1276	97.8	7,224
December ..	..	1,754	663	2,417	837	1761	1310	90.9	7,424
January ..	..	1,756	653	2,409	837	1691	1328	73.9	6,888
February ..	..	1,764	659	2,423	843	1681	1338	90.7	6,803
March ..	..	1,774	663	2,437	849	1684	1371	101.5	7,435
April ..	..	1,777	662	2,439	848	1686	1343	90.6	7,172
May ..	..	1,787	664	2,451	852	1689	1361	104.3	7,606
June ..	..	1,772	658	2,430	834	1687	1392	98.7	7,264
1949-50—									
July ..	..	1,688	633	2,321	758	1660	(p)1318	88.2	4,119
August ..	..	1,764	659	2,423	832	1678	(p)1345	†95.8	6,213
September ..	..	1,790	666	2,456	846	1684	1422	†108.5	7,852
October ..	..	1,798	671	2,469	854	1688	1422	..	8,156
November ..	..	1,811	677	2,488	859	1728	1426	..	8,453
December ..	..	1,816	681	2,497	856	1794	*1455	..	8,370
January ..	..	1,822	674	2,496	860	1716	*1470	..	..
February ..	..	1,835	680	2,515	869	1699	1476	..	..

(a) Total number of wage or salary earners in employment excluding employees in the defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers. (b) Figures for June, 1933, July, 1939, and June, 1943, were obtained from the Census, National Register and Civilian Register respectively. (c) Excludes working proprietors. (d) Average earnings per male unit employed. Male units represent total male employment plus 45 per cent. of female employment. Seasonally adjusted. (e) Monthly average for years, and monthly totals. (f) June, 1933. (g) July, 1933. (h) July, 1939. (i) Averages for year. (j) June, 1942. (k) June, 1943. (l) June, 1945. (m) June, 1946. (n) June, 1947. (o) From July, 1947, covers all State and Commonwealth railways systems. (p) Coal stoppage.

For meaning of symbols ..., *, † see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period	P.M.G.'s Department Receipts. (a)	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of Period. (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Building Permits (b) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Savings Bank Deposits at end of Period.	Australian Notes held by Public.	Bank Clearings Six Capitals (Weekly Averages).	Nine Trading Banks.		
		Motor Cars.	Com- mercial Vehicles, etc.					Deposits.		Advances
								Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	
	£'000. (c)	'000.	'000.	£'000. (c)	£ millions.	£ millions. (d)	£ millions.	£ millions. (e)	£ millions. (e)	£ millions. (e)
1932-33 ..	1,053	438	106	565	202.3	25.0	30.1	183.2	86.7	231.0
1936-37 ..	1,318	499	214	1,986	230.9	29.9	42.0	184.7	112.9	262.5
1937-38 ..	1,396	535	242	2,307	240.4	31.9	44.0	194.8	120.0	274.4
1938-39 ..	1,447	562	258	2,353	245.6	33.1	43.1	198.8	118.9	288.1
1942-43 ..	2,033	472	256	272	358.0	107.7	65.7	193.4	233.3	248.7
1943-44 ..	2,223	493	274	299	471.5	149.3	70.5	211.7	291.0	232.4
1944-45 ..	2,323	506	291	520	567.0	177.1	72.2	224.0	343.8	208.7
1945-46 ..	2,371	523	333	2,190	663.6	175.7	79.6	220.4	386.0	212.2
1946-47 ..	2,484	550	376	4,084	660.0	180.7	93.9	206.9	429.7	261.1
1947-48 ..	2,616	593	414	4,687	681.3	176.0	109.8	201.9	471.6	329.9
1948-49 ..	2,776	655	452	5,577	714.2	179.5	131.0	211.3	565.1	368.6
Monthly Totals.										
1947-48—										
February ..	2,454	576	403	4,013	665.1	170.7	111.8	199.9	486.7	337.2
March ..	2,609	578	405	4,695	667.4	176.3	108.6	200.7	505.0	333.7
April ..	2,744	584	410	5,451	667.9	174.5	115.2	200.8	508.7	338.1
May ..	2,562	589	410	5,530	669.1	172.4	125.7	200.8	507.5	344.1
June ..	2,834	593	414	4,734	681.3	173.8	130.9	200.2	516.6	348.8
1948-49—										
July ..	2,536	596	414	5,582	682.6	173.2	126.7	199.3	499.3	361.8
August ..	2,667	604	419	5,226	683.6	173.3	111.3	199.2	489.1	361.6
September ..	2,755	610	424	5,264	685.0	173.6	128.9	202.4	516.6	363.4
October ..	2,724	615	427	4,767	686.4	173.9	132.8	211.4	530.9	372.6
November ..	2,743	623	432	5,209	688.5	174.9	129.2	213.3	550.8	373.6
December ..	3,001	629	436	4,837	688.4	188.4	135.1	213.2	575.4	371.5
January ..	2,374	628	437	4,896	690.6	177.0	108.2	215.5	575.6	363.2
February ..	2,613	633	439	5,490	694.6	178.9	131.3	214.7	598.7	363.2
March ..	3,159	640	444	7,220	696.3	182.2	135.2	214.0	612.0	360.0
April ..	2,649	641	444	5,709	699.6	185.5	134.3	218.4	612.2	372.7
May ..	2,956	649	448	6,801	701.5	184.2	146.2	217.8	608.4	375.1
June ..	3,130	655	452	5,922	714.2	189.1	145.5	215.9	601.5	383.3
1949-50—										
July ..	2,522	660	451	5,026	719.6	187.1	140.9	213.4	579.2	392.0
August ..	2,935	670	457	6,401	721.4	187.9	118.5	212.6	578.5	390.5
September ..	2,868	677	462	7,136	723.2	189.9	145.5	211.7	590.6	393.7
October ..	3,062	682	465	6,507	727.9	190.2	151.0	211.3	610.0	400.7
November ..	3,351	692	471	6,812	729.5	192.0	163.2	221.1	644.1	404.6
December ..	3,515	702	477	5,101	732.1	206.6	173.7	222.2	692.4	404.0
January ..	3,010	709	477	6,185	735.8	192.6	142.1	226.8	703.0	400.9
February ..	3,332	†714	†480	7,973	739.2	194.1	164.9	228.9	737.8	399.8
March ..	3,582				741.8	197.4	187.0	231.4	775.2	404.7

(a) Actual collections. (b) All building operations for which permits granted by Local Government Authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see footnote, page 28). (c) Monthly averages. (d) Average of twelve monthly statements. (e) Average twelve months ended June.

For meaning of symbols †, — see page 1.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT: AUSTRALIA. (a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Employment. (Excluding Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.(c)	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.(d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1943—June ..	413.3	859.9	1,273.2	45.2	520.7	91.8	195.7	71.7	89.3	100.1
1944—June ..	404.5	871.1	1,275.6	43.4	518.2	83.7	201.9	71.4	92.7	106.6
1945—June ..	400.2	896.1	1,296.3	43.6	514.5	87.9	209.2	76.4	97.1	114.0
1946—June ..	435.0	1,071.5	1,506.5	48.8	558.4	124.9	237.8	103.2	133.4	140.6
1947—June ..	472.0	1,177.4	1,649.4	51.0	593.2	155.7	256.4	116.0	151.9	155.9
1948—June ..	494.0	1,236.9	1,730.9	52.7	625.0	167.8	269.9	123.3	161.7	163.3
1949—June(e) ..	522.7	1,249.4	1,772.1	49.2	623.3	183.0	280.8	125.6	169.3	168.2
September..	531.0	1,259.0	1,790.0	52.3	631.2	187.1	281.0	125.3	170.7	167.8
October ..	532.1	1,265.5	1,797.6	52.5	636.2	187.1	282.3	125.0	171.8	167.8
November..	535.8	1,274.8	1,810.6	53.3	639.1	189.0	283.5	127.4	174.1	168.7
December..	540.5	1,275.7	1,816.2	53.0	638.0	188.5	285.3	131.2	174.5	169.2
1950—January ..	541.8	1,280.1	1,821.9	53.5	642.7	189.6	285.2	127.4	175.9	170.0
February ..	545.2	1,289.4	1,834.6	54.0	647.6	193.1	287.4	127.0	177.3	170.4
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1943—June ..	135.9	504.8	640.7	0.6	228.6	2.4	34.6	98.5	52.6	165.3
1944—June ..	134.0	497.5	631.5	0.5	217.4	2.4	36.3	94.1	52.1	170.7
1945—June ..	124.8	494.6	619.4	0.4	206.3	2.2	37.0	96.4	52.6	175.7
1946—June ..	94.0	502.0	596.0	0.5	192.1	2.4	32.4	99.6	50.8	183.4
1947—June ..	92.1	527.5	619.6	0.5	199.9	2.6	32.4	104.0	53.0	193.3
1948—June ..	94.9	549.1	644.0	0.6	208.0	2.9	35.0	109.3	56.9	200.3
1949—June(e) ..	100.2	557.7	657.9	0.7	210.3	3.2	37.2	110.7	59.8	204.8
September..	102.1	563.4	665.5	0.7	214.8	3.1	37.2	110.0	61.8	205.7
October ..	103.3	568.1	671.4	0.7	217.5	3.2	38.1	110.7	61.8	207.0
November..	103.6	573.3	676.9	0.7	219.6	3.2	38.1	113.4	62.1	207.4
December..	104.1	576.7	680.8	0.7	218.1	3.2	38.1	118.1	62.2	207.6
1950—January ..	103.6	570.1	673.7	0.7	217.5	3.2	37.9	111.2	63.1	207.1
February ..	104.9	575.1	680.0	0.7	221.7	3.2	38.1	110.8	64.0	208.5
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.6
1943—June ..	549.2	1,364.7	1,913.9	45.8	749.3	94.2	230.3	170.2	141.9	265.4
1944—June ..	538.5	1,368.6	1,907.1	43.9	735.6	86.1	238.2	165.5	144.8	277.3
1945—June ..	525.0	1,390.7	1,915.7	44.0	720.8	90.1	246.2	172.8	149.7	289.7
1946—June ..	529.0	1,573.5	2,102.5	49.3	750.5	127.3	270.2	202.8	184.2	324.0
1947—June ..	564.1	1,704.9	2,269.0	51.5	793.1	158.3	288.8	220.0	204.9	349.2
1948—June ..	588.9	1,786.0	2,374.9	53.3	833.0	170.7	304.9	232.6	218.6	363.6
1949—June(e) ..	622.9	1,807.1	2,430.0	49.9	833.6	186.2	318.0	236.3	229.1	373.0
September..	633.1	1,822.4	2,455.5	53.0	846.0	190.2	318.2	235.3	232.5	373.5
October ..	635.4	1,833.6	2,469.0	53.2	853.7	190.3	320.4	235.7	233.6	374.8
November..	639.4	1,848.1	2,487.5	54.0	858.7	192.2	321.6	240.8	236.2	376.1
December..	644.6	1,852.4	2,497.0	53.7	856.1	191.7	323.4	249.3	236.7	376.8
1950—January ..	645.4	1,850.2	2,495.6	54.2	860.2	192.8	323.1	238.6	239.0	377.1
February ..	650.1	1,864.5	2,514.6	54.7	869.3	196.3	325.5	237.8	241.3	378.9

(a) Employees in the defence forces, at home or abroad, are excluded. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-Roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. All figures for months subsequent to May, 1945 (Factories, June, 1948) subject to revision.

(b) Includes employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, post office, education, police, public works, &c., as well as administrative employees. (c) From July, 1948, monthly figures are estimates subject to revision.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic). (e) Australia wide coal strike commenced 27th June and ended 15th August, 1949.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT: STATES.(a)

('000.)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1943—June ..	525.1	355.2	167.3	110.6	70.4	36.9	5.5	2.2	1,273.2
1944—June ..	524.1	352.1	169.0	110.3	71.7	37.9	7.7	2.8	1,275.6
1945—June ..	536.0	359.2	169.0	109.4	75.9	39.5	4.1	3.2	1,296.3
1946—June ..	618.5	417.9	192.4	129.6	93.9	46.9	2.8	4.5	1,506.5
1947—June ..	671.8	452.6	220.2	140.9	103.9	51.1	3.4	5.5	1,649.4
1948—June ..	702.3	473.3	232.6	149.0	109.2	54.5	4.0	6.0	1,730.9
1949—June(b) ..	705.5	489.9	240.3	155.6	113.0	56.2	4.3	7.3	1,772.1
September ..	715.9	492.0	242.9	156.5	113.9	57.0	4.6	7.2	1,790.0
October ..	720.2	493.6	242.9	157.3	114.6	57.2	4.5	7.3	1,797.6
November ..	725.2	497.3	244.1	158.5	116.1	57.6	4.5	7.3	1,810.6
December ..	726.9	500.4	241.9	159.7	117.5	58.0	4.5	7.3	1,816.2
1950—January ..	729.6	502.0	241.9	160.9	117.7	57.7	4.5	7.6	1,821.9
February ..	735.1	504.5	245.4	161.3	118.1	58.2	4.5	7.5	1,834.6
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1943—June ..	254.4	205.4	74.1	52.9	35.5	16.7	0.2	1.5	640.7
1944—June ..	250.9	198.3	77.4	50.3	35.9	16.8	0.2	1.7	631.5
1945—June ..	247.9	193.2	75.1	49.0	35.6	16.6	0.3	1.7	619.4
1946—June ..	242.3	183.7	71.2	45.8	34.5	16.6	0.3	1.6	596.0
1947—June ..	252.1	190.5	74.5	48.0	35.6	16.9	0.4	1.6	619.6
1948—June ..	261.9	196.7	77.9	50.1	37.0	18.0	0.6	1.8	644.0
1949—June(b) ..	263.8	202.8	80.0	52.1	37.9	18.6	0.7	2.0	657.9
September ..	270.0	202.7	80.6	52.7	38.4	18.3	0.7	2.1	665.5
October ..	273.2	204.6	81.0	52.8	38.7	18.3	0.7	2.1	671.4
November ..	275.8	206.5	81.0	53.2	39.2	18.4	0.7	2.1	676.9
December ..	278.3	206.1	81.6	53.6	39.7	18.7	0.7	2.1	680.8
1950—January ..	273.2	205.2	81.3	53.8	38.8	18.6	0.7	2.1	673.7
February ..	276.1	207.3	82.1	54.0	39.0	18.7	0.7	2.1	680.0
PERSONS.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1943—June ..	779.5	560.6	241.4	163.5	105.9	53.6	5.7	3.7	1,913.9
1944—June ..	775.0	550.4	246.4	160.6	107.6	54.7	7.9	4.5	1,907.1
1945—June ..	783.9	552.4	244.1	158.4	111.5	56.1	4.4	4.9	1,915.7
1946—June ..	860.8	601.6	263.6	175.4	128.4	63.5	3.1	6.1	2,102.5
1947—June ..	923.9	643.1	294.7	188.9	139.5	68.0	3.8	7.1	2,269.0
1948—June ..	964.2	670.0	310.5	199.1	146.2	72.5	4.6	7.8	2,374.9
1949—June(b) ..	969.3	692.7	320.3	207.7	150.9	74.8	5.0	9.3	2,430.0
September ..	985.9	694.7	323.5	209.2	152.3	75.3	5.3	9.3	2,455.5
October ..	993.4	698.2	323.9	210.1	153.3	75.5	5.2	9.4	2,469.0
November ..	1,001.0	703.8	325.1	211.7	155.3	76.0	5.2	9.4	2,487.5
December ..	1,005.2	706.5	323.5	213.3	157.2	76.7	5.2	9.4	2,497.0
1950—January ..	1,002.8	707.2	323.2	214.7	156.5	76.3	5.2	9.7	2,495.6
February ..	1,011.2	711.8	327.5	215.3	157.1	76.9	5.2	9.6	2,514.6

(a) Excludes Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces. See also footnotes on page 4, commenced 27th June and ended 15th August, 1949.

(b) Australia wide coal strike

EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES.

(Number of Employees in Thousands. Excludes Working Proprietors.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1000.	
										Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
Monthly Averages.											
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1019	1019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1031	1022
1942-43 ..	306.4	255.6	62.2	71.5	25.1	18.0	517.7	221.1	(a)738.8	1405	1339
1943-44 ..	313.8	253.9	62.5	67.9	27.2	19.2	519.4	225.1	(a)744.5	1416	1338
1944-45 ..	304.8	249.6	61.8	64.0	28.1	18.9	515.5	211.7	(a)727.2	1383	1293
1945-46 ..	300.9	245.9	63.0	60.9	29.1	18.4	524.8	193.4	718.2	1366	1264
1946-47 ..	331.3	256.1	68.6	68.2	32.2	19.2	578.2	197.4	775.6	1475	1347
1947-48 ..	349.8	268.1	73.0	71.1	34.0	20.3	611.5	204.8	816.3	1553	1397
1948-49† ..	358.8	274.9	76.8	73.4	35.2	21.2	628.0	212.3	840.3	1598	1408
Monthly Totals.											
1947-48—											
February ..	351.6	269.2	67.6	71.7	34.1	20.7	609.1	205.8	814.9	1550	1390
March ..	353.8	270.5	67.0	71.9	34.8	20.7	610.5	208.2	818.7	1557	1394
April ..	354.9	271.8	73.4	72.4	34.9	21.1	620.0	208.5	828.5	1576	1408
May ..	354.2	271.3	75.9	72.5	35.0	21.2	622.7	207.4	830.1	1579	1410
June ..	355.4	271.8	77.2	72.5	34.9	21.2	625.0	208.0	833.0	1584	1412
1948-49—†											
July ..	356.4	271.4	77.8	72.5	34.8	20.8	624.9	208.8	833.7	1586	1411
August ..	357.1	272.1	77.9	72.3	34.6	20.8	625.2	209.6	834.8	1588	1410
September ..	358.4	272.5	77.6	72.9	34.8	20.8	625.3	211.7	837.0	1592	1413
October ..	358.8	273.1	76.9	73.1	35.1	20.6	624.8	212.8	837.6	1593	1410
November ..	360.3	274.3	77.2	73.0	35.2	20.8	627.0	213.8	840.8	1599	1413
December ..	358.9	274.3	74.3	73.2	35.2	21.1	624.7	212.3	837.0	1592	1403
January ..	359.1	274.1	73.7	73.7	34.9	21.2	627.6	209.1	836.7	1592	1400
February ..	362.2	276.2	75.1	73.8	34.9	21.2	630.1	213.3	843.4	1604	1407
March ..	363.0	278.6	76.6	73.9	35.7	21.6	633.8	215.6	849.4	1616	1415
April ..	361.6	277.3	77.1	74.4	35.8	22.0	633.0	215.2	848.2	1613	1409
May ..	363.0	277.9	78.5	74.3	35.7	22.1	635.9	215.6	851.5	1620	1411
June ..	346.1	277.2	78.9	74.0	35.6	21.8	623.3	210.3	833.6	1586	1377
1949-50—†											
July ..	284.2	276.1	72.9	69.1	34.6	21.4	567.0	191.3	758.3	1442	1248
August ..	348.0	276.4	79.8	71.2	35.7	21.2	622.1	210.2	832.3	1583	1367
September ..	357.3	277.2	80.7	73.5	36.1	21.2	631.2	214.8	846.0	1609	1386
October ..	362.6	278.7	80.6	74.4	36.1	21.3	636.2	217.5	853.7	1624	1395
November ..	364.6	280.8	80.6	74.9	36.3	21.5	639.1	219.6	858.7	1633	1399
December ..	363.0	280.3	78.3	76.0	36.5	22.0	638.0	218.1	856.1	1628	1391
January ..	365.5	281.0	78.1	77.0	36.8	21.8	642.7	217.5	860.2	1636	1395
February ..	370.2	283.1	80.1	77.1	37.0	21.8	647.6	221.7	869.3	1653	1406

(a) Includes Government munitions and aircraft establishments and naval dockyards—1942-43, 121.8; 1943-44, 116.0; and 1944-45, 89.1.

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

RETAIL STORES EMPLOYMENT INDEX.

Compiled from numbers of employees on the last pay-roll of each month shown on pay-roll tax returns of taxable employers whose principal activity was retail trade.

Month.			New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
Males—Index of Employment. (Base : July, 1941 = 1,000.)									
1941—November	..	..	1007	996	1020	987	961	996	1001
1945—August	..	..	734	758	762	803	788	867	758
1949—February	..	..	1296	1297	1294	1404	1512	1286	1320
March	..	..	1295	1302	1295	1395	1534	1257	1321
April	..	..	1300	1301	1295	1391	1539	1286	1324
May..	..	..	1308	1298	1301	1393	1503	1295	1325
June..	..	..	1308	1299	1306	1401	1500	1270	1326
July..	..	..	1286	1299	1285	1404	1522	1260	1315
August	..	..	1300	1299	1299	1400	1529	1270	1324
September	..	..	1293	1312	1301	1416	1513	1281	1326
October	..	..	1291	1304	1293	1423	1524	1287	1323
November	..	..	1327	1321	1328	1444	1538	1313	1351
December	..	..	1389	1345	1365	1455	1610	1333	1394
1950—January	..	..	1324	1318	1351	1448	1552	1320	1353
February	..	..	1325	1296	1327	1444	1554	1328	1344
Females—Index of Employment. (Base : July, 1941 = 1,000.)									
1941—November	..	..	1060	1055	1069	1075	1070	1058	1062
1945—August	..	..	965	922	1055	1042	1003	1060	975
1949—February	..	..	1185	1092	1252	1197	1222	1254	1172
March	..	..	1186	1096	1248	1209	1226	1270	1176
April	..	..	1178	1102	1266	1203	1233	1254	1175
May..	..	..	1180	1104	1279	1214	1221	1255	1179
June..	..	..	1163	1113	1275	1212	1239	1260	1175
July..	..	..	1099	1114	1254	1205	1256	1251	1147
August	..	..	1149	1105	1259	1203	1242	1257	1165
September	..	..	1155	1113	1273	1216	1234	1275	1172
October	..	..	1164	1122	1293	1208	1243	1286	1181
November	..	..	1196	1150	1326	1231	1281	1318	1212
December	..	..	1291	1164	1370	1236	1346	1367	1266
1950—January	..	..	1164	1128	1321	1232	1284	1320	1191
February	..	..	1157	1093	1325	1240	1238	1316	1176
Persons—Index of Employment. (Base : July, 1941 = 1,000.)									
1941—November	..	..	1034	1025	1042	1031	1016	1024	1030
1945—August	..	..	849	837	892	922	897	953	864
1949—February	..	..	1240	1192	1275	1297	1358	1270	1240
March	..	..	1240	1197	1274	1298	1371	1263	1242
April	..	..	1239	1200	1282	1293	1377	1271	1244
May..	..	..	1243	1199	1291	1300	1354	1275	1246
June..	..	..	1235	1204	1292	1303	1362	1265	1244
July..	..	..	1191	1205	1271	1301	1381	1256	1225
August	..	..	1224	1200	1280	1298	1377	1264	1238
September	..	..	1223	1211	1288	1312	1365	1278	1243
October	..	..	1227	1212	1293	1311	1375	1286	1246
November	..	..	1261	1235	1327	1333	1402	1315	1275
December	..	..	1340	1253	1367	1342	1470	1350	1323
1950—January	..	..	1243	1221	1337	1336	1410	1320	1266
February	..	..	1240	1192	1326	1338	1387	1322	1253

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-Roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 80 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted monthly index of average weekly wages earnings is published on page 2.

Period.	New South Wales. (a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).							
1942-43	4,617	3,198	1,498	951	582	283	11,129
1943-44	4,757	3,254	1,624	966	607	304	11,512
1944-45	4,721	3,194	1,553	935	626	312	11,341
1945-46	4,980	3,390	1,566	949	692	345	11,922
1946-47	5,851	3,970	1,773	1,152	830	410	13,986
1947-48	6,970	4,717	2,065	1,364	955	491	16,562
1948-49	8,105	5,536	2,497	1,646	1,127	576	19,487
1946-47—							
December Qtr. ..	5,949	4,018	1,816	1,153	832	411	14,179
March	5,713	3,847	1,687	1,148	811	396	13,602
June	6,246	4,261	1,896	1,223	890	449	14,965
1947-48—							
September Qtr. ..	6,480	4,399	2,004	1,269	902	447	15,501
December	7,229	4,817	2,147	1,365	970	492	17,020
March	6,753	4,543	1,863	1,350	936	486	15,931
June	7,419	5,109	2,245	1,472	1,011	540	17,796
1948-49—							
September Qtr. ..	7,759	5,303	2,426	1,580	1,081	537	18,686
December	8,436	5,646	2,614	1,664	1,166	582	20,108
March	7,730	5,307	2,345	1,600	1,073	569	18,624
June	8,493	5,882	2,605	1,738	1,188	616	20,522
1949-50—							
September Qtr. ..	7,982	5,911	2,674	1,742	1,224	617	20,150
December	9,394	6,501	2,900	1,904	1,335	667	22,701
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER MALE UNIT (£).(c)							
1942-43	6.59	6.56	6.23	6.02	5.93	5.39	6.42
1943-44	6.87	6.83	6.60	6.26	6.28	5.84	6.70
1944-45	6.74	6.71	6.37	6.12	6.27	5.76	6.57
1945-46	6.68	6.72	6.04	5.98	6.15	5.76	6.48
1946-47	6.93	7.00	6.10	6.29	6.30	6.04	6.71
1947-48	7.85	7.93	6.67	7.10	6.98	6.81	7.55
1948-49	8.87	9.02	7.74	8.18	7.93	7.63	8.57
1946-47—							
December Qtr. ..	7.09	7.15	6.31	6.36	6.36	6.12	6.86
March	6.72	6.75	5.79	6.21	6.06	5.79	6.48
June	7.23	7.34	6.31	6.53	6.56	6.43	7.00
1947-48—							
September Qtr. ..	7.40	7.52	6.46	6.71	6.70	6.35	7.16
December	8.15	8.14	6.88	7.15	7.12	6.89	7.77
March	7.58	7.60	6.20	7.01	6.83	6.67	7.27
June	8.25	8.46	7.09	7.51	7.25	7.28	7.98
1948-49—							
September Qtr. ..	8.58	8.76	7.55	7.98	7.72	7.26	8.33
December	9.24	9.24	8.13	8.31	8.21	7.78	8.89
March	8.41	8.60	7.33	7.91	7.54	7.47	8.18
June	9.24	9.46	7.97	8.50	8.24	8.01	8.95
1949-50—							
September Qtr. ..	9.01	9.49	8.16	8.56	8.39	8.08	8.91
December	10.06	10.28	8.71	9.12	9.02	8.61	9.73

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units (i.e., total male employment plus 45 per cent. of total female employment).

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of the *Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act 1944* (from 1st July, 1947, Part VII. of the *Social Services Consolidation Act 1947-1949*), which came into effect on 1st July, 1945.

Period.	Persons.						Australia.		
	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO BENEFIT EACH MONTH.(c)									
									Monthly Averages.
1945-46	4,066	225	913	913	336	26	5,455	1,024	6,479
1946-47	1,059	1,349	2,993	115	998	34	6,115	433	6,548
1947-48	293	86	1,769	20	206	15	2,273	116	2,389
1948-49	188	24	705	10	74	10	955	56	1,011
									Monthly Totals.
1947-48—									
June	169	52	421	9	123	6	743	37	780
1948-49—									
July	181	51	464	15	139	18	799	69	868
August	160	35	313	7	99	12	571	55	626
September ..	122	29	357	9	74	11	542	60	602
October	402	23	484	6	67	8	939	51	990
November ..	533	17	405	20	51	8	973	61	1,034
December ..	141	15	795	6	45	6	972	36	1,008
January	172	19	1,757	5	118	6	2,013	64	2,077
February ..	84	24	1,325	1	75	9	1,460	58	1,518
March	118	14	1,012	4	50	8	1,157	49	1,206
April	153	17	820	22	62	9	1,020	63	1,083
May	86	16	401	4	40	6	513	40	553
June	105	28	322	25	64	17	500	61	561

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF EACH MONTH.(d)									
									Monthly Averages.
1945-46	3,380	321	1,510	854	443	43	5,799	752	6,551
1946-47	1,815	1,697	4,610	206	1,032	78	9,143	295	9,438
1947-48	637	140	2,640	49	390	32	3,713	175	3,888
1948-49	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	1,472	103	1,575
									Monthly Totals.
1947-48—									
June	339	66	1,173	20	212	28	1,718	120	1,838
1948-49—									
July	278	53	732	24	193	31	1,196	115	1,311
August	292	38	700	19	175	36	1,142	118	1,260
September ..	235	29	586	19	149	36	938	116	1,054
October	420	34	548	11	116	37	1,075	91	1,166
November ..	375	26	602	7	102	32	1,036	108	1,144
December ..	308	27	1,119	11	104	32	1,507	94	1,601
January	294	24	1,704	8	121	30	2,084	97	2,181
February ..	215	18	2,069	7	113	29	2,355	96	2,451
March	231	21	2,081	9	99	24	2,375	90	2,465
April	231	26	1,531	18	87	28	1,825	96	1,921
May	222	33	809	12	91	29	1,102	94	1,196
June	283	51	648	30	107	32	1,034	117	1,151

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.
Saturday of month.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.
(d) Last Saturday of month.

(c) Four or five-weekly period ending last

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—continued.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PAYMENTS DURING EACH MONTH (£).

Period.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
Monthly Averages.							
1945-46	22,934	2,353	9,011	6,102	3,037	319	43,756
1946-47	14,345	13,255	36,754	1,672	9,225	651	75,902
1947-48	5,042	1,387	20,696	336	3,099	242	30,802
1948-49	1,940	201	8,300	49	832	249	11,571
Monthly Totals.							
1947-48—							
January	3,994	1,004	18,263	267	3,613	200	27,341
February	3,973	732	21,760	210	2,177	162	29,014
March	1,944	614	36,890	168	1,712	111	41,439
April	2,334	767	53,925	135	1,622	169	58,952
May	2,365	443	18,630	12	1,310	123	22,883
June	1,838	480	9,202	161	1,477	168	13,326
1948-49—							
July	2,690	381	7,534	160	1,795	252	12,812
August	2,088	472	3,595	30	1,406	707	8,298
September	1,770	270	1,358	7	1,287	262	4,954
October	1,826	158	5,214	45	867	220	8,330
November	2,200	198	2,101	68	622	299	5,488
December	2,116	130	4,777	2	630	144	7,799
January	1,824	140	8,976	65	804	237	12,046
February	1,611	111	13,041	11	569	163	15,506
March	1,074	141	16,524	6	736	178	18,659
April	1,532	117	19,766	Cr. 92	549	190	22,062
May	3,158	155	10,894	41	347	164	14,759
June	1,390	144	5,811	237	374	177	8,133
1949-50—							
July	560,402	236	5,502	5,592	11,040	253	583,025
August	506,887	1,373	69,443	23,036	2,381	173	603,293
September	79,197	1,393	13,703	4,300	1,023	291	99,907
October	Cr.59,702	582	1,438	Cr. 8	468	210	Cr.57,012
November	Cr.27,271	341	1,952	114	436	159	Cr.24,269
December	865	283	2,111	Cr. 334	501	182	3,608
January	7,303	239	5,105	214	412	125	13,398

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

NOTE.—Benefits are paid weekly, in arrears.

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT RETURNS.

The only regular records of unemployment available in comparable form over a considerable period are the quarterly percentages reported by trade unions to the Commonwealth Statistician. The membership of the reporting unions consists predominantly of males, and represents at present about 54 per cent. of the total trade union membership and between 25 and 30 per cent. of all wage and salary earners. For some States the returns are a more representative sample than for others. This table, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of trend of unemployment as reported by secretaries of trade unions.

Period.			New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
			%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1936-37	..	..	12.8	10.1	7.4	9.4	6.0	8.4	10.6
1937-38	..	..	10.0	8.2	6.9	7.3	5.4	6.8	8.5
1938-39	..	..	10.3	10.0	6.0	9.4	6.5	8.9	9.3
1942-43	..	..	1.5	0.9	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.3
1943-44	..	..	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.0	1.2
1944-45	..	..	1.6	0.8	0.6	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.2
1945-46	..	..	1.5	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3
1946-47	..	..	1.5	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.4	2.3	1.4
1947-48	..	..	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.0
1948-49	..	..	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.8
1946-47—									
November..	..	..	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.6	2.3	1.4
February ..	..	..	1.5	1.6	0.8	1.1	1.4	2.2	1.4
May ..	..	..	1.4	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	2.4	1.3
1947-48—									
August ..	..	..	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	2.5	1.1
November..	..	..	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.8	1.1	2.3	0.9
February ..	..	..	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.9
May ..	..	..	1.0	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.9
1948-49—									
August ..	..	..	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.9
November..	..	..	0.9	0.7	0.3	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.8
February ..	..	..	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8
May ..	..	..	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.8
1949-50—									
August (a)	..	..	10.2	0.9	2.7	6.5	1.3	0.7	5.5
November	..	..	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8

(a) Includes all members of reporting unions indirectly affected by the industrial dispute in the coal mining industry; those directly affected are, however, excluded.

INDUSTRIAL GROUPS: CHANGE FROM AUGUST, 1949, TO NOVEMBER, 1949.

Manufacturing—I. Wood, furniture, &c., 8.7% to 0.5%; II. Engineering, metal works, &c., 5.4% to 0.6%; III. Food, drink, tobacco, &c., 6.5% to 1.2%; IV. Clothing, textiles, &c., 2.1% to 0.5%; V. Books, printing, &c., 1.3% to 0.1%; VI. Other Manufacturing, 7.2% to 1.7%; VII. Building, 1.7% to 0.9%; VIII. Mining, quarrying, &c., 4.1% to 2.2%; X. Land Transport, other than railway and tramway services, 1.2% to 0.9%; IX., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous, 2.4% to 0.5%; All groups, 5.5% to 0.8%.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 F.O.B.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—								Fuels and Lubricants.	Auxiliary Aids to Production.	Munitions and War Stores.			
	Building and Construction.	Rural Industries.	Manufacturing.	Total.										
	Class Ia.	Class Ib.	Class Ic.	Class I.										
Annual Totals.														
1936-37 ..	4,164	4.0	1,708	1.7	41,223	39.9	47,095	45.6	7,452	7.2	4,893	4.7	386	0.4
1937-38 ..	5,661	4.4	1,855	1.5	51,419	40.2	58,935	46.1	9,411	7.4	5,644	4.4	440	0.4
1938-39 ..	4,622	4.1	2,053	1.8	43,181	38.2	49,856	44.1	8,828	7.8	5,630	4.9	1,059	0.9
1942-43 ..	2,218	0.9	1,228	0.5	57,404	23.7	60,850	25.1	16,948	7.0	7,790	3.2	82,081	34.0
1943-44 ..	2,315	1.0	1,722	0.7	69,998	29.2	74,035	30.9	22,915	9.5	8,519	3.5	60,396	25.4
1944-45 ..	2,460	1.2	2,172	1.0	73,660	34.7	78,292	36.9	19,747	9.3	9,746	4.6	49,026	23.1
1945-46 ..	3,103	1.8	4,180	2.4	65,253	36.8	72,536	41.0	19,964	11.3	7,555	4.3	30,465	17.2
1946-47 ..	4,867	2.3	3,795	1.8	91,138	43.8	99,800	47.9	18,300	8.8	13,557	6.5	5,128	2.5
1947-48 ..	8,729	2.6	3,469	1.0	148,343	43.9	160,541	47.5	28,536	8.4	24,703	7.3	1,551	0.5
1948-49† ..	14,326	3.5	3,821	0.9	162,541	39.2	180,688	43.6	36,436	8.8	26,528	6.4	3,077	0.7
Monthly Totals.														
1947-48—														
February	764	2.8	341	1.2	11,610	41.6	12,715	45.6	2,511	9.0	2,256	8.1	8	0.0
March ..	706	2.3	143	0.5	11,610	38.5	12,459	41.3	2,553	8.5	2,719	9.0	68	0.2
April ..	904	2.8	373	1.2	12,664	39.2	13,941	43.2	2,130	6.6	2,774	8.6	216	0.7
May ..	1,088	3.5	234	0.7	12,904	41.1	14,226	45.3	2,452	7.8	1,222	3.9	178	0.5
June ..	1,072	3.4	227	0.7	12,802	40.9	14,101	45.0	2,359	7.5	1,553	5.0	129	0.4
1948-49†—														
July ..	1,102	3.1	437	1.2	13,819	38.8	15,358	43.1	3,769	10.6	2,592	7.3	83	0.2
August ..	1,059	3.5	374	1.3	12,230	40.8	13,663	45.6	2,637	8.8	1,470	4.9	226	0.8
September	1,310	3.6	351	0.9	17,438	47.4	19,099	51.9	2,797	7.6	2,002	5.4	85	0.2
October..	1,047	3.0	284	0.8	14,238	41.0	15,569	44.8	3,553	10.2	2,724	7.9	413	1.2
November	1,115	3.7	323	1.1	12,109	40.2	13,547	45.0	2,364	7.9	1,865	6.2	185	0.6
December	1,095	3.4	275	0.9	11,480	36.0	12,850	40.3	3,279	10.3	2,298	7.2	506	1.6
January ..	1,068	3.4	342	1.1	12,098	38.6	13,508	43.1	2,537	8.1	2,012	6.4	240	0.8
February	1,139	3.0	318	0.8	13,267	35.1	14,724	38.9	3,326	8.8	3,504	9.3	260	0.7
March ..	1,353	3.6	247	0.7	15,089	40.2	16,689	44.5	3,105	8.3	2,679	7.1	220	0.6
April ..	1,159	3.5	289	0.9	12,738	38.5	14,186	42.9	3,162	9.5	1,557	4.7	359	1.1
May ..	1,455	3.8	273	0.7	14,947	38.8	16,675	43.3	3,232	8.4	1,920	5.0	179	0.4
June ..	1,424	3.9	308	0.8	13,088	35.9	14,820	40.6	2,675	7.3	1,905	5.2	321	0.9
1949-50†—														
July ..	1,188	3.4	382	1.1	13,475	38.4	15,045	42.9	2,691	7.7	2,083	5.8	58	0.2
August ..	1,278	3.5	481	1.3	13,030	35.2	14,789	40.0	4,005	10.8	2,405	6.5	85	0.2
September	1,823	4.4	519	1.3	14,528	35.5	16,870	41.2	2,770	6.8	2,316	5.6	74	0.2
October..	1,817	4.3	606	1.4	14,101	33.1	16,524	38.8	3,248	7.6	3,343	7.9	121	0.3
November	1,658	4.2	483	1.2	12,099	30.1	14,240	35.5	3,918	9.8	2,156	5.4	114	0.3
December	2,342	5.3	292	0.6	13,871	31.1	16,505	37.0	3,746	8.4	2,592	5.8	160	0.4
January ..	2,113	4.8	273	0.6	13,275	29.8	15,661	35.2	4,464	10.0	2,069	4.7	270	0.6
February	2,251	5.1	497	1.1	12,960	29.5	15,708	35.7	4,638	10.5	2,927	6.7	202	0.5

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE: ECONOMIC CLASSES—*continued.*

(£A'000 F.O.B.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumers' Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other.		Total.	
			Road Vehicles and Complete Parts.		Railway Equipment, Vessels and Civil Aircraft.									
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E-J.		Class VI.	
Annual Totals.														
1936-37 ..	10,603	10.3	10,469	10.2	1,751	1.7	6,187	6.0	554	0.5	13,885	13.4	20,626	19.9
1937-38 ..	13,783	10.9	13,928	11.0	2,458	1.9	6,371	5.0	811	0.6	15,595	12.3	22,777	17.9
1938-39 ..	13,248	11.7	10,792	9.5	1,427	1.3	6,765	6.0	1,013	0.9	14,599	12.9	22,377	19.8
1942-43 ..	17,569	7.3	36,052	14.9	2,622	1.1	7,640	3.2	520	0.2	9,730	4.0	17,890	7.4
1943-44 ..	18,574	7.7	35,625	14.9	2,206	0.9	5,692	2.4	958	0.4	10,513	4.4	17,163	7.2
1944-45 ..	15,161	7.2	20,009	9.4	865	0.4	7,298	3.4	1,382	0.7	10,565	5.0	19,245	9.1
1945-46 ..	14,148	8.0	11,644	6.5	1,264	0.7	7,628	4.3	607	0.3	11,285	6.4	19,520	11.0
1946-47 ..	17,220	8.3	18,534	8.9	2,776	1.3	10,411	5.0	1,290	0.6	21,326	10.2	33,027	15.8
1947-48 ..	28,713	8.5	29,246	8.6	2,067	0.6	19,404	5.7	3,361	1.0	39,963	11.9	62,728	18.6
1948-49† ..	40,914	9.9	50,776	12.2	4,267	1.0	19,424	4.7	7,373	1.8	44,573	10.9	71,370	17.4
Monthly Totals.														
1947-48—														
February	2,282	8.1	2,605	9.3	208	0.8	1,391	5.0	309	1.1	3,620	13.0	5,320	19.1
March ..	2,717	9.0	3,403	11.3	167	0.5	2,474	8.2	321	1.1	3,293	10.9	6,088	20.2
April ..	2,739	8.5	3,383	10.5	338	1.0	2,246	7.0	431	1.3	4,072	12.6	6,749	20.9
May ..	2,779	8.9	3,996	12.7	215	0.7	1,747	5.6	460	1.4	4,141	13.2	6,348	20.2
June ..	2,922	9.3	3,446	11.0	151	0.5	1,876	6.0	416	1.3	4,372	14.0	6,664	21.3
1948-49†—														
July ..	3,014	8.4	4,102	11.5	134	0.4	1,848	5.2	457	1.3	4,316	12.0	6,621	18.5
August ..	2,686	8.9	3,286	10.9	146	0.5	1,745	5.8	507	1.7	3,619	12.1	5,871	19.6
September	3,082	8.3	3,303	9.0	210	0.6	1,393	3.8	488	1.3	4,419	11.9	6,300	17.0
October..	2,758	8.0	4,344	12.4	313	0.9	1,217	3.5	600	1.7	3,240	9.4	5,057	14.6
November	2,938	9.8	3,060	10.2	101	0.3	1,497	5.0	654	2.2	3,890	12.8	6,041	20.0
December	3,023	9.5	3,312	10.6	683	2.1	1,832	5.7	630	2.0	3,388	10.7	5,850	18.4
January ..	2,960	9.5	4,179	13.3	290	0.9	1,630	5.2	662	2.1	3,311	10.6	5,603	17.9
February	3,861	10.2	4,834	12.8	1,353	3.6	1,422	3.7	776	2.1	3,725	9.9	5,923	15.7
March ..	3,942	10.5	4,755	12.7	270	0.7	1,515	4.0	741	2.0	3,626	9.6	5,882	15.6
April ..	3,564	10.8	4,754	14.4	214	0.6	1,301	3.9	598	1.8	3,402	10.3	5,301	16.0
May ..	4,658	12.1	5,343	13.7	208	0.5	2,015	5.2	697	1.8	3,710	9.6	6,422	16.6
June ..	4,428	12.1	5,504	15.1	345	1.0	2,009	5.5	563	1.5	3,927	10.8	6,499	17.8
1949-50†—														
July ..	4,525	12.9	4,804	13.7	240	0.7	1,851	5.3	494	1.4	3,296	9.4	5,641	16.1
August ..	4,072	11.0	6,126	16.6	228	0.6	1,621	4.4	480	1.3	3,177	8.6	5,278	14.3
September	4,995	12.2	6,779	16.6	273	0.7	1,744	4.3	761	1.8	4,348	10.6	6,853	16.7
October..	4,661	10.9	7,350	17.2	416	1.0	1,729	4.1	675	1.6	4,541	10.6	6,945	16.3
November	4,684	11.7	7,782	19.4	622	1.5	1,732	4.3	631	1.5	4,240	10.6	6,603	16.4
December	5,116	11.5	9,436	21.2	218	0.5	1,813	4.1	587	1.3	4,397	9.8	6,797	15.2
January ..	5,565	12.5	8,920	20.0	470	1.1	2,440	5.5	612	1.4	4,000	9.0	7,052	15.9
February	4,777	10.9	8,661	19.7	589	1.3	2,359	5.3	618	1.4	3,489	8.0	6,466	14.7

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 F.O.B.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.)			Finished Consumers' Goods. (Class VI.)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Annual Totals.										
1936-37	12,287	4,471	30,337	544	3,637	16,446	12,831	18,063	72,381	103,275
1937-38	14,890	5,384	38,661	571	3,605	18,601	15,461	21,549	90,366	127,376
1938-39	13,202	4,210	32,443	657	3,714	18,006	13,859	19,525	79,833	113,217
1942-43	11,441	10,130	39,279	1,526	4,782	11,581	12,967	35,209	193,626	241,802
1943-44	16,245	7,806	49,984	841	3,819	12,502	17,086	39,069	183,278	239,433
1944-45	15,838	7,582	54,872	1,271	4,560	13,414	17,109	35,165	159,817	212,091
1945-46	21,719	7,575	43,241	905	5,812	12,803	22,624	36,568	117,904	177,096
1946-47	29,068	9,543	61,189	1,309	7,613	24,105	30,377	39,852	138,113	208,342
1947-48	34,839	21,638	104,064	1,286	13,322	48,120	36,125	70,463	231,497	338,085
1948-49†	39,273	24,710	116,705	1,595	10,789	59,783	40,868	80,851	292,337	414,056
Monthly Totals.										
1947-48—										
February	2,665	1,574	8,476	124	867	4,329	2,789	5,537	19,579	27,905
March	3,478	1,785	7,196	137	1,892	4,060	3,615	6,782	19,777	30,174
April	3,324	1,414	9,203	107	1,547	5,095	3,431	5,756	23,083	32,270
May	3,418	1,713	9,095	167	963	5,218	3,585	5,853	21,978	31,416
June	2,904	2,189	9,008	82	977	5,605	2,986	6,172	22,167	31,325
1948-49†—										
July	3,437	2,294	9,627	111	960	5,549	3,548	7,738	24,387	35,673
August	3,230	2,042	8,391	228	798	4,844	3,458	6,143	20,384	29,985
September	4,347	2,956	11,796	87	598	5,569	4,434	6,989	25,455	36,878
October	3,862	2,343	9,364	129	528	5,186	3,991	7,043	23,697	34,731
November	2,995	1,825	8,727	114	820	5,105	3,109	5,691	21,301	30,101
December	3,020	1,458	8,372	145	1,171	4,617	3,165	6,567	22,069	31,801
January	2,394	2,223	8,891	68	1,167	4,365	2,462	6,747	22,120	31,329
February	3,018	1,901	9,806	106	844	5,001	3,124	6,947	27,714	37,785
March	3,314	2,440	10,935	116	856	4,895	3,430	7,238	26,874	37,542
April	3,041	1,779	9,366	174	542	4,593	3,215	6,230	23,652	33,097
May	4,029	1,718	10,927	167	1,237	4,936	4,196	7,037	27,404	38,637
June	2,586	1,731	10,503	150	1,268	5,082	2,736	6,481	27,280	36,497
1949-50†—										
July	2,924	2,796	9,325	126	1,120	4,395	3,050	7,313	24,724	35,087
August	3,251	1,837	9,700	74	1,144	4,060	3,325	7,747	25,916	36,988
September	2,369	1,869	12,630	137	929	5,787	2,506	6,442	31,982	40,930
October	3,484	1,278	11,762	165	1,003	5,777	3,649	6,462	32,497	42,608
November	3,396	1,435	9,409	186	1,010	5,407	3,582	7,223	29,314	40,119
December	3,206	1,458	11,842	167	1,035	5,595	3,373	7,176	34,021	44,570
January	3,716	1,540	10,404	120	1,563	5,369	3,836	8,536	32,099	44,471
February	3,773	1,579	10,355	194	1,373	4,900	3,967	8,538	31,463	43,968

NOTE.—Class II. consists entirely of goods "simply transformed", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods "more elaborately transformed". Class III. is about equally divided between goods "simply" and "more elaborately" transformed.

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 F.O.B.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Butter.	Sugar.	Meats.	Hides and Skins.	Lead.	Dried Fruits.	Fresh Fruits.	Total Exports (Exclud- ing Gold).
Annual Totals.										
1936-37	62,505	24,352	8,802	3,707	10,332	7,302	4,818	2,060	1,980	148,490
1937-38	46,984	26,939	10,781	4,027	12,254	6,197	4,913	2,684	2,055	141,668
1938-39	42,737	13,275	12,892	4,178	11,780	4,104	4,276	2,865	2,023	122,543
1942-43	44,318	8,379	8,568	1,001	10,897	3,716	3,446	2,277	191	122,971
1943-44	45,767	14,964	6,871	1,524	13,063	6,752	3,158	3,295	318	146,583
1944-45	49,387	16,484	8,250	1,854	14,108	6,602	5,558	3,571	318	155,123
1945-46	69,260	17,560	12,272	3,212	14,011	11,836	4,222	2,149	1,265	196,849
1946-47	126,800	29,013	12,570	2,819	21,136	15,473	10,904	2,462	1,553	308,932
1947-48	148,747	84,636	20,629	3,162	22,586	12,361	13,772	2,559	3,887	405,982
1948-49†	231,664	98,196	23,811	13,290	29,753	12,238	22,108	3,456	3,115	542,609
Monthly Totals.										
1947-48—										
February	15,787	10,586	2,019	342	973	929	506	6	44	38,554
March	17,332	11,015	2,414	20	1,138	1,184	783	57	381	41,717
April	11,865	13,336	1,572	157	1,381	833	888	59	931	39,946
May	15,962	11,208	1,041	22	1,531	459	1,201	296	835	40,744
June	13,796	12,376	520	1,210	2,151	1,071	1,850	758	757	45,007
1948-49†—										
July	22,651	13,574	1,128	350	3,559	1,310	423	742	508	53,618
August	7,688	9,464	852	1,253	2,746	1,336	2,232	434	105	33,873
September	6,504	10,467	641	1,407	2,465	1,191	1,547	592	84	34,635
October	18,735	5,571	1,297	1,596	2,134	1,102	1,683	281	154	41,947
November	20,288	7,693	3,994	1,264	1,584	1,110	2,936	129	128	50,010
December	27,101	5,185	2,370	2,260	1,940	838	2,202	118	62	51,971
January	19,620	4,820	1,730	878	2,081	914	1,873	75	46	39,593
February	*23,008	*9,700	3,529	1,577	*2,492	*819	2,421	99	*58	51,782
March	22,245	7,318	3,075	1,053	2,721	935	2,669	53	95	47,842
April	16,576	6,588	2,311	828	1,985	757	1,312	101	537	37,651
May	28,518	9,584	1,513	502	3,017	1,048	1,268	545	768	55,951
June	*18,730	*8,232	1,371	322	*3,029	*878	1,542	287	*570	43,736
1949-50†—										
July	17,693	6,202	551	403	2,698	898	936	268	298	37,255
August	12,086	7,980	633	1,712	3,175	1,279	659	616	236	35,699
September	9,584	8,267	1,215	2,751	4,571	1,211	529	315	104	36,297
October	22,324	7,478	938	1,404	2,950	1,116	346	103	85	45,114
November	28,819	5,450	1,783	1,854	3,383	1,311	1,196	104	96	52,416
December	29,408	4,965	1,574	1,892	2,749	1,240	1,301	98	86	52,092
January	33,784	3,588	3,563	588	2,210	1,153	697	49	25	53,016
February	28,667	8,632	7,988	923	3,557	1,268	1,104	63	85	61,293

For meaning of symbols *, † see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index-numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which constitute at present about 80 per cent. of all exports. For some metals and for wheat (since July, 1945) the index of prices is deduced from average value of current sales or shipments and hence shows some irregularity.

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX : FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the prices of the commodities are multiplied by the average annual exports (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Section : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Metals. (a)	Meats. (b)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (c)	Tallow.	Hides. (d)	Gold.	All Groups.	
											Ex- cluding Gold.	In- cluding Gold.
(e)	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
(f)	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936-37..	1,218	1,234	915	1,196	978	1,035	1,026	1,217	1,129	988	1,156	1,144
1937-38..	989	1,110	1,074	962	1,066	925	1,034	1,002	999	982	1,025	1,022
1938-39..	793	656	1,011	842	956	1,040	940	781	872	1,030	819	834
1942-43..	1,165	1,055	1,140	1,004	1,122	1,519	1,116	1,192	1,447	1,188	1,137	1,141
1943-44..	1,165	1,155	1,140	1,127	1,132	1,585	1,207	1,231	1,514	1,188	1,170	1,171
1944-45..	1,165	1,536	1,474	1,286	1,218	1,715	1,282	1,447	1,474	1,204	1,304	1,297
1945-46..	1,165	2,130	1,474	1,956	1,234	2,130	1,375	1,519	1,518	1,223	1,477	1,459
1946-47..	*1,734	3,046	1,734	3,076	1,393	2,644	1,523	3,038	3,344	1,223	*2,087	*2,027
1947-48..	*2,872	4,195	1,935	3,723	1,464	3,203	1,566	3,607	3,643	1,223	*2,955	*2,834
1948-49..	*3,649	4,134	2,330	4,781	1,706	3,426	1,619	4,078	4,206	1,223	*3,481	*3,324
1947-48—	*										*	*
February ..	3,281	4,461	2,035	3,621	1,446	3,402	1,569	3,797	4,043	1,223	3,217	3,079
March ..	g3,017	4,558	2,035	3,789	1,446	3,402	1,557	3,797	3,873	1,223	3,117	2,985
April ..	3,130	4,597	2,035	4,021	1,446	3,402	1,557	3,797	3,834	1,223	3,197	3,059
May ..	3,319	4,719	2,035	4,055	1,554	3,402	1,557	3,797	3,652	1,223	3,319	3,174
June ..	3,620	4,748	2,035	4,246	1,554	3,402	1,572	3,797	3,652	1,223	3,488	3,329
1948-49—												
July ..	*g3507	4,746	2,330	4,388	1,554	3,402	1,572	3,797	3,391	1,223	*3,476	*3,319
August ..	*g3507	4,621	2,330	4,427	1,554	3,402	1,572	3,797	3,365	1,223	*3,455	*3,300
September ..	3,545	4,493	2,330	4,380	1,554	3,402	1,572	3,797	3,417	1,223	3,448	3,293
October ..	3,281	4,429	2,330	4,728	1,757	3,402	1,572	4,172	3,847	1,223	3,352	3,204
November ..	3,658	4,382	2,330	4,687	1,757	3,402	1,572	4,172	4,186	1,223	3,529	3,368
December ..	3,997	4,184	2,330	4,805	1,757	3,402	1,572	4,172	4,199	1,223	3,667	3,497
January ..	3,997	3,967	2,330	5,508	1,757	3,450	1,572	4,172	4,421	1,223	3,682	3,511
February ..	4,111	3,827	2,330	5,513	1,757	3,450	1,572	4,172	4,711	1,223	3,705	3,532
March ..	g4,111	3,794	2,330	5,347	1,757	3,450	1,707	4,172	4,682	1,223	3,699	3,525
April ..	3,319	3,802	2,330	4,580	1,757	3,450	1,707	4,172	4,822	1,223	3,253	3,111
May ..	3,356	3,711	2,330	4,524	1,757	3,450	1,716	4,172	4,812	1,223	3,254	3,112
June ..	3,394	3,650	2,330	4,486	1,757	3,450	1,716	4,172	4,617	1,223	3,257	3,115
1949-50—												
July ..	g3,394	3,619	2,504	3,298	1,862	3,450	1,716	4,172	4,428	1,223	3,191	3,055
August ..	g3,470	3,674	2,504	3,696	1,862	3,450	1,716	4,172	4,460	1,223	3,268	3,126
September ..	3,394	3,767	2,504	3,883	1,862	3,450	1,716	4,172	4,512	1,438	3,262	3,135
October ..	*3,922	3,779	2,504	4,538	2,004	3,450	1,716	3,049	4,656	1,761	*3,574	*3,449
November ..	4,186	3,819	2,504	4,406	2,004	3,450	1,716	3,049	4,819	1,761	3,703	3,568
December ..	4,563	3,943	2,504	4,265	2,004	3,450	1,716	3,049	4,985	1,761	3,901	3,753
January ..	5,619	*3,948	2,504	4,321	2,004	*3,938	1,716	3,049	5,001	1,761	*4,437	*4,251
February ..	†5,355	†3,971	2,504	4,346	2,005	3,938	1,716	3,049	4,995	1,761	†4,314	†4,136

(a) Non-ferrous—silver, copper, tin, spelter, lead. (b) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. (c) Sultanas, lexias, currants.
 (d) Cattle hides, calf skins. (e) Percentage distribution of base aggregate for "All Groups (including Gold)"—applicable from 1936-37.
 (f) Percentage distribution of base aggregate for "All Groups (excluding Gold)"—applicable from 1936-37.
 (g) Nominal.

For meaning of symbols *, † see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

MONTH-TO-MONTH INDEX: CHANGING WEIGHTS.

The index-numbers in the preceding table, while they indicate satisfactorily the general trend of the market, take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. In consequence the index-numbers do not give an adequate indication of the significance of the price movements as they actually affected current sales. This is shown more accurately by the index-numbers (including gold) in the following table, in the computation of which the "quantity-multipliers" are changed each month. The index-numbers are designed solely for comparisons of current prices with those of the corresponding months, or periods of months, of the preceding year.

(Base: Weighted Average Price Level in corresponding months of preceding year = 1,000.)

Month.	Month stated compared with same month of preceding year.	Period of trade year ending in month stated compared with same period of preceding year.
1946-47—	*	*
February	1,505	1,336
March	1,554	1,362
April	1,534	1,380
May	1,543	1,398
June	1,511	1,409
1947-48—	*	*
July	1,268	1,268
August	1,621	1,449
September	1,435	1,444
October	1,427	1,439
November	1,404	1,431
December	1,425	1,430
January	1,497	1,442
February	1,501	1,451
March	1,419	1,447
April	1,392	1,441
May	1,452	1,442
June	1,527	1,450
1948-49—	*	*
July	1,509	1,509
August	1,301	1,421
September	1,258	1,372
October	1,234	1,331
November	1,262	1,313
December	1,327	1,316
January	1,191	1,293
February	1,133	1,264
March	1,172	1,252
April	982	1,223
May	956	1,189
June	907	1,158
1949-50—	*	*
July	914	914
August	923	919
September	935	924
October	1,103	970
November	1,080	998
December	1,099	1,019
January	1,295	1,060
February	1,185	1,080

For meaning of symbol *, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX.

BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS.

The construction of this new index has been made possible by the collection of new data on prices and consumption. Both in contents and methods of computation it differs from the Melbourne Index of General Wholesale Prices. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and dealers, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal.	Oils and Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported. (a)	Goods principally Home Produced.	Total All Groups.
1936-37 ..	962	984	1,185	988	1,106	989	994	974	991	980	984
1937-38 ..	1,013	1,012	1,000	1,001	969	1,041	1,014	997	1,018	1,000	1,005
1938-39 ..	1,025	1,004	815	1,011	925	970	992	1,029	991	1,020	1,011
1942-43 ..	1,288	1,667	1,471	1,422	1,379	1,628	1,487	1,279	1,760	1,212	1,373
1943-44 ..	1,310	1,695	1,501	1,432	1,398	1,743	1,527	1,287	1,823	1,217	1,396
1944-45 ..	1,307	1,675	1,518	1,428	1,398	1,747	1,522	1,308	1,819	1,232	1,405
1945-46 ..	1,302	1,561	1,518	1,416	1,398	1,766	1,490	1,348	1,782	1,257	1,412
1946-47 ..	1,318	1,453	1,913	1,401	1,313	1,802	1,488	1,380	1,768	1,288	1,429
1947-48 ..	1,460	1,607	2,833	1,478	1,261	1,898	1,655	1,532	1,924	1,448	1,588
1948-49 ..	1,849	1,737	3,419	1,594	1,301	1,983	1,884	1,747	2,008	1,727	1,809
1948-49—											
July ..	1,651	1,724	3,323	1,533	1,361	1,948	1,800	1,614	2,000	1,573	1,699
August ..	1,651	1,724	3,328	1,537	1,347	1,952	1,801	1,699	2,025	1,629	1,745
September ..	1,697	1,733	3,371	1,538	1,347	1,964	1,823	1,689	2,017	1,639	1,750
October ..	1,697	1,734	3,197	1,593	1,347	1,964	1,818	1,688	2,015	1,636	1,747
November ..	1,876	1,734	3,484	1,592	1,349	1,966	1,895	1,735	2,008	1,724	1,807
December ..	1,876	1,734	3,650	1,595	1,312	1,985	1,907	1,761	2,010	1,751	1,827
January ..	1,936	1,741	3,639	1,623	1,275	1,986	1,929	1,765	2,011	1,769	1,840
February ..	1,936	1,741	3,721	1,623	1,268	1,986	1,934	1,801	2,016	1,797	1,861
March ..	1,965	1,741	3,721	1,623	1,250	2,002	1,945	1,798	2,000	1,809	1,865
April ..	1,966	1,744	3,197	1,623	1,265	2,002	1,917	1,805	2,005	1,795	1,856
May ..	1,966	1,746	3,196	1,623	1,250	2,017	1,920	1,809	2,002	1,801	1,859
June ..	1,966	1,746	3,200	1,623	1,247	2,021	1,922	1,805	1,991	1,803	1,858
1949-50—											
July ..	2,090	1,745	3,313	1,624	1,185	2,021	1,966	1,865	2,057	1,850	1,911
August ..	2,090	1,745	3,385	1,632	1,210	2,053	1,978	1,859	2,066	1,850	1,913
September ..	2,091	1,726	3,327	1,624	1,231	2,079	1,975	1,855	2,040	1,855	1,909
October ..	2,093	1,726	3,665	1,798	1,249	2,080	2,011	1,878	2,086	1,877	1,938
November ..	2,093	1,888	3,864	1,798	1,343	2,081	2,073	1,917	2,171	1,913	1,988
December ..	2,144	1,888	4,239	1,936	1,417	2,081	2,128	1,973	2,208	1,975	2,043
January ..	2,185	1,888	4,935	1,987	1,454	2,409	2,249	1,931	2,322	1,973	2,076
February ..	2,185	1,897	4,889	1,994	1,459	2,409	2,250	1,993	2,368	2,002	2,110

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally.

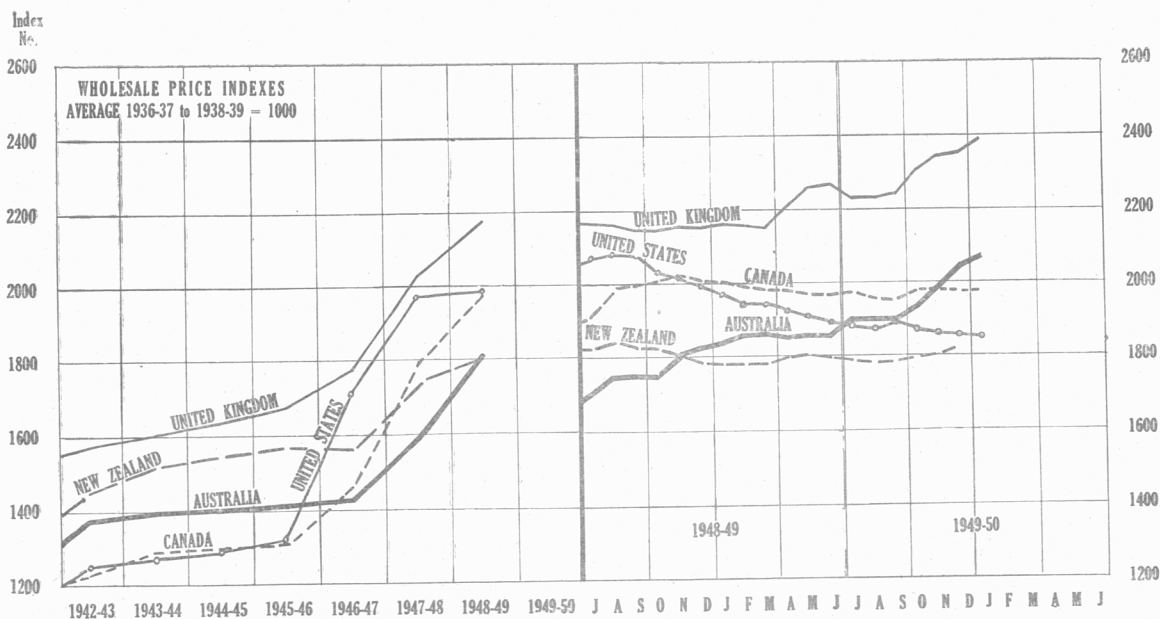
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Australia.	Canada.	France.	India.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Sweden.	United Kingdom.		U.S.A.
	Common-wealth Statistician.	Dominion Statistician.	Inst. Nat. de la Stat.	Economic Adviser to the Government of India.	Government Statistician.	Census and Statistics Office.	(a)	Board of Trade.	Economist.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.
1936-37 ..	984	1,014	830	1,045	960	971	(b) 1,007	998	1,051	1,039
1937-38 ..	1,005	1,051	1,053	997	1,019	1,025	(b) 976	1,044	1,024	1,013
1938-39 ..	1,011	935	1,117	958	1,021	1,004	(b) 1,017	958	925	948
1942-43 ..	1,373	1,228	2,391	1,894	1,448	1,450	(b) 1,732	1,576	1,502	1,247
1943-44 ..	1,396	1,286	2,715	2,320	1,517	1,534	(b) 1,732	1,603	1,523	1,271
1944-45 ..	1,405	1,294	3,218	2,404	1,540	1,554	(b) 1,711	1,638	1,566	1,289
1945-46 ..	1,412	1,321	5,340	2,441	1,567	1,585	1,666	1,673	1,610	1,325
1946-47 ..	1,429	1,462	8,894	2,782	1,561	1,640	1,694	1,776	1,814	1,710
1947-48 ..	1,588	1,797	14,514	(c) 3,275	1,730	1,741	1,825	2,032	2,055	1,970
1948-49 ..	1,809	1,987	20,319	3,793	* 1,801	1,855	1,909	2,179	2,184	1,990
1948-49—					*					
February ..	1,861	1,992	20,687	3,720	1,777	1,857	1,913	2,160	2,197	1,943
March ..	1,865	1,985	20,403	3,702	1,778	1,860	1,903	2,155	2,193	1,946
April ..	1,856	1,984	20,120	3,761	1,797	1,865	1,903	2,214	2,186	1,928
May ..	1,859	1,970	20,599	3,771	1,799	1,881	1,903	2,260	2,231	1,913
June ..	1,858	1,969	19,749	3,783	1,793	1,900	1,903	2,266	2,212	1,898
1949-50—					*					
July ..	1,911	1,973	20,207	3,806	1,787	1,903	1,903	2,242	2,181	1,886
August ..	1,913	1,959	20,905	3,890	1,781	1,921	1,893	2,242	2,186	1,879
September	1,909	1,958	21,341	3,898	1,784	1,924	1,903	2,254	2,291	1,887
October ..	1,938	1,979	21,820	3,933	1,792	1,921	1,923	2,318	2,324	1,870
November	1,988	1,978	21,853	* 3,902	1,799	1,927	1,923	2,347	2,333	1,863
December	2,043	1,975	21,820	* 3,813	1,823	1,930	1,933	2,355	2,344	1,859
January ..	2,076	1,979	22,485	* 3,847	1,820	1,943	1,933	* 2,390	2,361	1,854
February ..	2,110	1,990	22,322	3,923	1,821	1,956	1,943	2,395	2,387	1,870

(a) Recomputed from the original base 1937 = 100, as published in the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations. Base: Average three years ended December, 1939 = 1,000. (b) Year ended December following. (c) "Sensitive Series" prior to July, 1947; thereafter "General Purpose Series", on base year ended August 1939 = 1000.

For meaning of symbols —, * see page 1.



SECURITY PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the three sets of index-numbers given below, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the tables.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.			New South Wales : Ordinary Shares. (a)					34 Active shares included in foregoing. (b)	
			23 Manufactur- ing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.		75 Companies (including 24 Miscel- laneous).
1936-37	..	..	989	1,059	1,010	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026
1937-38	..	..	1,012	1,008	1,026	1,053	983	1,009	1,011
1938-39	..	..	999	933	964	841	965	969	963
1942-43	..	..	1,066	895	745	885	909	939	986
1943-44	..	..	1,136	1,023	834	931	948	1,020	1,059
1944-45	..	..	1,154	1,078	917	999	976	1,061	1,095
1945-46	..	..	1,262	1,190	1,022	1,062	1,071	1,161	1,199
1946-47	..	..	1,463	1,479	1,104	1,131	1,296	1,325	1,355
1947-48	..	..	1,666	1,663	1,044	1,229	1,505	1,450	1,450
1948-49	..	..	1,682	1,601	948	1,240	1,635	1,426	1,413
1947-48—									
February	..	..	1,719	1,656	1,018	1,300	1,510	1,483	1,483
March	..	..	1,657	1,626	1,014	1,195	1,498	1,439	1,420
April	..	..	1,684	1,642	1,004	1,211	1,491	1,446	1,441
May	..	..	1,723	1,677	1,006	1,284	1,505	1,468	1,466
June	..	..	1,741	1,701	1,000	1,291	1,518	1,478	1,478
1948-49—									
July	..	..	1,744	1,714	987	1,274	1,526	1,478	1,482
August	..	..	1,734	1,702	975	1,264	1,547	1,469	1,469
September	..	..	1,726	1,682	976	1,269	1,547	1,459	1,461
October	..	..	1,703	1,677	979	1,240	1,563	1,449	1,445
November	..	..	1,704	1,660	973	1,259	1,582	1,449	1,444
December	..	..	1,688	1,602	974	1,242	1,607	1,433	1,419
January	..	..	1,703	1,574	973	1,253	1,635	1,433	1,427
February	..	..	1,690	1,569	945	1,267	1,673	1,426	1,412
March	..	..	1,656	1,534	932	1,242	1,731	1,406	1,387
April	..	..	1,626	1,527	907	1,176	1,740	1,384	1,354
May	..	..	1,636	1,507	896	1,218	1,751	1,388	1,357
June	..	..	1,569	1,460	864	1,181	1,724	1,339	1,304
1949-50—									
July	..	..	1,553	1,444	866	1,194	1,701	1,324	1,292
August	..	..	1,594	1,524	879	1,266	1,734	1,368	1,349
September	..	..	1,632	1,539	890	1,264	1,766	1,392	1,370
October	..	..	1,683	1,541	885	1,286	1,799	1,421	1,410
November	..	..	1,720	1,567	894	1,312	1,839	1,449	1,430
December	..	..	1,755	1,572	892	1,328	1,855	1,468	1,448
January	..	..	1,791	1,632	896	1,346	1,909	1,502	1,486
February	..	..	1,815	1,654	901	1,378	1,988	1,532	1,495

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician. The index-numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales. They represent unweighted averages of the mean monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued. Recomputed from original base, par values. (b) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES—continued.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.				Melbourne Stock Exchange.(a)			Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
				15 Preference Shares.	9 Bank Shares.	3 Silver-lead Shares.	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37	..	..	..	997	1,091	1,171	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38	..	..	..	1,000	1,000	1,019	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39	..	..	..	1,003	909	810	980	989	984
1942-43	..	..	..	940	779	693	1,060	834	957
1943-44	..	..	..	1,072	828	766	1,173	933	1,062
1944-45	..	..	..	1,114	867	817	1,198	987	1,101
1945-46	..	..	..	1,127	933	897	1,317	1,075	1,206
1946-47	..	..	..	1,159	1,142	1,077	1,472	1,249	1,370
1947-48	..	..	..	1,197	1,154	1,381	1,625	1,386	1,515
1948-49	..	..	..	1,170	1,170	1,417	1,681	1,364	1,536
1947-48—									
February	..	..	..	1,216	1,137	1,458	1,655	1,388	1,532
March	..	..	..	1,192	1,135	1,400	1,641	1,382	1,521
April	..	..	..	1,195	1,150	1,559	1,645	1,375	1,521
May..	..	..	..	1,191	1,161	1,648	1,676	1,385	1,542
June..	..	..	..	1,185	1,160	1,608	1,689	1,392	1,553
1948-49—									
July..	..	..	..	1,184	1,159	1,553	1,685	1,394	1,552
August	..	..	..	1,188	1,161	1,561	1,689	1,384	1,549
September	..	..	..	1,189	1,160	1,534	1,695	1,387	1,554
October	..	..	..	1,184	1,178	1,529	1,713	1,383	1,561
November	..	..	..	1,175	1,192	1,568	1,723	1,392	1,571
December	..	..	..	1,170	1,179	1,508	1,704	1,389	1,560
January	..	..	..	1,207	1,146	1,558	1,687	1,385	1,548
February	..	..	..	1,166	1,185	1,478	1,686	1,380	1,545
March	..	..	..	1,161	1,175	1,297	1,683	1,362	1,536
April..	..	..	..	1,159	1,170	1,236	1,660	1,315	1,502
May ..	..	..	..	1,151	1,173	1,154	1,651	1,309	1,494
June..	..	..	..	1,104	1,163	1,032	1,602	1,283	1,456
1949-50—									
July ..	..	..	..	1,081	1,173	1,151	1,593	1,277	1,448
August	..	..	..	1,124	1,170	1,235	1,629	1,301	1,479
September	..	..	..	1,129	1,175	1,408	1,665	1,305	1,500
October	..	..	..	1,125	1,193	1,486	1,691	1,321	1,521
November	..	..	..	1,170	1,178	1,432	1,709	1,347	1,543
December	..	..	..	1,139	1,233	1,411	1,705	1,357	1,545
January	..	..	..	1,139	1,301	1,489	1,755	1,386	1,586
February	..	..	..	1,136	1,337	1,455			

(a) Compiled by the Stock Exchange of Melbourne. The index-numbers of bank shares and silver-lead shares represent averages (weighted by paid-up capital, with adjustment in the case of bank shares) of the mean monthly prices on the Melbourne Stock Exchange. The preference share index-numbers are based on the reciprocals of average yields. Recomputed from original base, May, 1926.

(b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index-numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index-numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928.

RETAIL PRICE AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index-numbers have been recomputed uniformly to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index-numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Indexes : Six Capital Cities						Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.	
	Food and Groceries.	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Food, &c., and Rent (" B " Series).	Clothing.	Mis-cellaneous.	Food, &c., Rent, Clothing and Mis-cellaneous. (" C " Series).	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real " Wage, Adult Males.(a)
1936-37	963	968	965	976	996	973	949	976
1937-38	989	1,001	993	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,009
1938-39	1,048	1,031	1,042	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015
1942-43	1,203	1,054	1,143	1,713	1,188	1,267	1,288	1,017
1943-44	1,172	1,054	1,124	1,757	1,215	1,270	1,329	1,046
1944-45	1,179	1,053	1,129	1,746	1,211	1,270	1,333	1,050
1945-46	1,187	1,054	1,134	1,777	1,212	1,278	1,343	1,051
1946-47	1,208	1,054	1,147	1,873	1,225	1,309	1,423	1,087
1947-48	1,333	1,056	1,222	2,013	1,279	1,393	1,565	1,123
1948-49	1,531	1,058	1,340	2,264	1,349	1,528	1,757	1,150
1947-48—								
January	1,340	1,056	1,239	2,031	1,283	1,407	1,589	1,129
February	1,368							
March	1,376							
April	1,381	1,057	1,266	2,103	1,301	1,441	1,631	1,132
May	1,403							
June	1,436							
1948-49—								
July	1,451	1,057	1,296	2,174	1,325	1,479	1,697	1,147
August	1,455							
September	1,467							
October	1,501	1,058	1,334	2,222	1,331	1,512	1,743	1,153
November	1,521							
December	1,545							
January	1,548	1,059	1,355	2,260	1,359	1,538	1,771	1,151
February	1,559							
March	1,564							
April	1,582	1,059	1,374	2,400	1,381	1,582	1,818	1,149
May	1,589							
June	1,594							
1949-50—								
July	1,589	1,060	1,381	2,498	1,402	1,610	1,857	1,153
August	1,597							
September	1,605							
October	1,604	1,062	1,404	2,606	1,436	1,653	1,891	1,144
November	1,632							
December	1,670							
January	1,669	1,063	1,434	2,636	1,461	1,682		
February	1,684							
March	1,703							

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index-number.

RETAIL PRICES, HOURS AND WAGES.

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1948 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	1,533	1,517	1,456	1,497	1,484	1,516	1,512
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	1,781	1,733	1,687	1,713	1,745	1,707	1,743
"Real" " " (a) ..	1,162	1,142	1,159	1,144	1,176	1,126	1,153
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	890	890	890	881	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	122/-	120/-	115/-	116/-	116/-	118/-	119/-
State " " "	(b) 122/-	(c)	(d) 119/-	117/-	(b) 121/7	(c)	..
1949 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	1,569	1,537	1,460	1,519	1,509	1,555	1,538
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	1,802	1,767	1,722	1,732	1,778	1,743	1,771
"Real" " " (a) ..	1,149	1,150	1,179	1,140	1,178	1,120	1,151
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	890	890	890	881	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (e)	124/-	123 -	118/-	119/-	118/-	121/-	122/-
State " " "	(e) 124/-	(c)	(f) 122/-	117/-	(g) 124/9	(c)	..
1949 : June Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	1,607	1,581	1,509	1,553	1,586	1,592	1,582
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	1,844	1,813	1,781	1,805	1,811	1,789	1,818
"Real" " " (a) ..	1,147	1,147	1,180	1,162	1,142	1,124	1,149
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	890	890	890	881	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (h)	127/-	125/-	119/-	121/-	120/-	124/-	124/-
State " " "	(h) 127/-	(c)	(i) 123/-	(j) 125/-	(i) 127/1	(c)	..
1949 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	1,638	1,604	1,538	1,588	1,618	1,607	1,610
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	1,885	1,850	1,815	1,820	1,872	1,822	1,857
"Real" " " (a) ..	1,151	1,153	1,180	1,146	1,157	1,134	1,153
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	890	890	890	880	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (k)	130/-	128/-	122/-	124/-	126/-	127/-	127/-
State " " "	(k) 130/-	(c)	(k) 126/-	125/-	(l) 133/2	(c)	..
1949 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	1,676	1,660	1,571	1,624	1,645	1,645	1,653
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	1,917	1,883	1,871	1,843	1,916	1,844	1,891
"Real" " " (a) ..	1,144	1,134	1,191	1,135	1,165	1,121	1,144
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	890	890	890	880	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	132/-	130/-	125/-	126/-	129/-	128/-	129/-
State " " "	(b) 132/-	(c)	(m) 129/-	125/-	(n) 135/11	(c)	..

(a) Weighted average Six Capitals or Six States average 3 years ended June, 1939=1,000.

(b) Payable as from 1st November.

(c) None declared, but Federal rates followed to a large extent.

(d) Payable as from 21st October.

(e) Payable as from 1st

February. (f) Payable as from 31st January.

(g) Payable as from 9th February.

(h) Payable as from 1st May.

(i) Payable as from 2nd May.

(j) Payable as from 11th May.

(k) Payable as from 1st August.

(l) Payable as from

21st July.

(m) Payable as from 31st October.

(n) Payable as from 24th October.

PRIMARY PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index-numbers in the following table have been recomputed to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 from the revised series published in *Production Bulletin*, Part II. They are based in general on prices realized in the principal markets of Australia.

The monthly index-numbers (based on the nearest equivalent wholesale price quotations) are intended progressively to forecast the point which the annual index-numbers will eventually reach, and so provide a preliminary figure for the latest full year pending the completion of the annual census of production. The preliminary index-numbers will be revised as each production census is completed.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Mining other than Gold. (a)	Gold. (a)	All Groups
1936-37	1,111	1,104	929	1,073	982	993	1,064
1937-38	993	1,018	1,012	1,009	1,085	996	1,015
1938-39	896	878	1,059	918	933	1,011	922
1942-43	1,185	1,273	1,175	1,225	1,249	1,199	1,225
1943-44	1,331	1,327	1,213	1,307	1,298	1,199	1,303
1944-45	1,636	1,320	1,200	1,407	1,367	1,205	1,399
1945-46	1,582	1,331	1,240	1,401	1,493	1,227	1,404
1946-47	1,808	1,786	1,313	1,705	1,752	1,234	1,697
1947-48	2,393	2,483	1,473	2,264	2,385	1,234	2,245
1948-49†	2,570	3,005	1,845	2,637	2,840	1,234	2,589
1948-49—†							
February	2,469	3,305	1,911	2,752	3,892	1,234	2,719
March	2,494	3,305	1,910	2,760	3,892	1,234	2,731
April	2,499	2,827	1,920	2,545	3,928	1,234	2,548
May	2,478	2,850	1,921	2,548	3,958	1,234	2,557
June	2,486	2,873	1,917	2,560	4,002	1,234	2,570
1949-50—†							
July	2,516	2,868	1,931	2,571	4,002	1,234	2,561
August	2,529	2,933	1,869	2,594	4,028	1,234	2,583
September	2,533	2,888	1,871	2,575	4,029	1,451	2,566
October	2,548	3,191	1,888	2,723	4,066	1,776	2,700
November	2,580	3,373	1,908	2,821	4,119	1,776	2,790
December	2,677	3,677	1,928	2,999	4,145	1,776	2,951
January	2,649	4,283	1,913	3,265	*4,155	1,776	3,269
February	2,653	4,137	2,025	3,221	4,178	1,776	3,232
1st 8 Months, 1948-49†	2,610	3,026	1,809	2,654	(b)3,879	(b)1,234	2,583
1st 8 Months, 1949-50†	2,586	3,419	1,917	2,846	(c)4,167	(c)1,776	2,832

(a) Year ended previous December.

(b) First two months, 1949.

(c) First two months, 1950.

For meaning of symbols *, † see page 1.

SUMMARY OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base : Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Primary Production Prices (All Groups).	Export Prices (including Gold).	Wholesale Prices of Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Retail Prices (Six Capital Cities) : "C" Series Index. (b)	Security Prices : New South Wales (Ordinary Shares—75 Companies).
			Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home Pro- duced.	All Groups.		
1936-37	1,064	1,144	991	980	984	973	1,022
1937-38	1,015	1,022	1,018	1,000	1,005	998	1,009
1938-39	922	834	991	1,020	1,011	1,029	969
1942-43	1,225	1,141	1,760	1,212	1,373	1,267	939
1943-44	1,303	1,171	1,823	1,217	1,396	1,270	1,020
1944-45	1,399	1,297	1,819	1,232	1,405	1,270	1,061
1945-46	1,404	1,459	1,782	1,257	1,412	1,278	1,161
1946-47	1,697	*2,027	1,768	1,288	1,429	1,309	1,325
1947-48	2,245	*2,834	1,924	1,448	1,588	1,393	1,450
1948-49	(c) 2,589	*3,324	2,008	1,727	1,809	1,528	1,426
1947-48—		*					
January .. ..	..	2,980	1,928	1,500	1,626	1,407	1,499
February .. ..	..	3,079	1,933	1,520	1,641		1,483
March .. ..	..	2,985	1,950	1,514	1,642		1,439
April .. ..	..	3,059	1,952	1,515	1,644	1,441	1,446
May .. ..	..	3,174	1,959	1,534	1,659		1,468
June .. ..	..	3,329	1,960	1,544	1,667		1,478
1948-49—	(c)						
July	2,493	*3,319	2,000	1,573	1,699	1,479	1,478
August	2,535	*3,300	2,025	1,629	1,745		1,469
September	2,554	3,293	2,017	1,639	1,750		1,459
October	2,494	3,204	2,015	1,636	1,747	1,512	1,449
November	2,604	3,368	2,008	1,724	1,807		1,449
December	2,603	3,497	2,010	1,751	1,827		1,433
January	2,659	3,511	2,011	1,769	1,840	1,538	1,433
February	2,719	3,532	2,016	1,797	1,861		1,426
March	2,731	3,525	2,000	1,809	1,865	1,582	1,406
April	2,548	3,111	2,005	1,795	1,856		1,384
May	2,557	3,112	2,002	1,801	1,859		1,388
June	2,570	3,115	1,991	1,803	1,858		1,339
1949-50—	(c)						
July	2,561	3,055	2,057	1,850	1,911	1,610	1,324
August	2,583	3,126	2,066	1,850	1,913		1,368
September	2,566	3,135	2,040	1,855	1,909		1,392
October	2,700	*3,449	2,086	1,877	1,938	1,653	1,421
November	2,790	3,568	2,171	1,913	1,988		1,449
December	2,951	3,753	2,208	1,975	2,043		1,468
January	3,269	*4,251	2,322	1,973	2,076	1,682	1,502
February	3,232	4,136	2,368	2,002	2,110		1,532
March							

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally. (b) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (c) Preliminary figures subject to revision, based on average wholesale prices in the period shown. See note at head of page 24.

For meaning of symbols .., *, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for Private Buildings relate only to Permits issued by Local Government Authorities.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales.			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private.		Government. (a)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Common-wealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Common-wealth and State.	Sydney and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note A.	Common-wealth and State.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note B.
Monthly Averages.									
1936-37 .. ..	..	(b)1,986	(c)627	..	848	416	..	667	62
1937-38 .. ..	..	(b)2,307	(c)764	..	1,093	506	..	669	78
1938-39	408	(b)2,353	(c)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1942-43	1,312	(b) 272	98	471	117	40	292	77	4
1943-44	909	(b) 299	92	250	114	52	209	86	10
1944-45	1,024	(b) 520	207	426	183	122	291	132	10
1945-46	1,057	(b)2,190	1,147	540	943	808	381	592	61
1946-47	1,248	4,084	(d)1,991	633	1,768	1,301	371	1,195	91
1947-48	2,003	4,687	(e)3,151	1,044	1,705	(f)1,985	545	1,650	126
1948-49	*1,986	5,577	3,832	904	2,089	2,432	675	1,804	211
1947-48—									
December Qtr. ..	1,846	4,491	2,834	757	1,477	1,736	657	1,713	112
March	2,367	4,116	2,872	1,383	1,589	1,787	612	1,359	97
June	2,307	5,238	3,745	1,267	1,937	2,461	563	1,871	177
1948-49—									
September Qtr. ..	2,176	5,358	3,806	1,093	2,037	2,373	661	1,608	202
December	*1,938	4,933	3,535	1,038	1,969	2,328	559	1 400	156
March	1,974	5,869	3,807	745	2,142	2,359	826	2,007	237
June	1,857	6,144	4,178	740	2,207	2,667	656	2,200	249
1949-50—									
September Qtr. ..	2,645	6,188	4,079	989	2,227	2,554	994	2,039	196
December	2,695	6,140	4,694	842	2,381	3,104	1,050	1,881	202
Monthly Totals.									
1949-50—									
December .. ..	..	5,101	..	..	1,938	2,743	..	1,679	..
January .. ..	..	6,185	..	..	2,381	2,449	..	1,937	..
February .. ..	..	7,973	..	..	2,828	3,475	..	2,451	..

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (c) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (d) See E and F, page 27. (e) See A, below and C, page 27. (f) Includes all areas outside Sydney and suburbs from September quarter, 1947. See A below.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Mildura and Warrnambool, the Towns of Horsham, Newtown and Chilwell, and Sale, and Borough of Shepparton.

NOTE.—The values shown exclude, in general, air raid shelters and alterations for protection against air raids.

For meaning of symbols .., —, * see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for Private Buildings relate only to Permits issued by Local Government Authorities.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government.		Private.(a)	Government.(b)		Private.(a)	Government.		Private.(a)	Government.		Private.(a)
	Common-wealth and State.	Brisbane and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note C.	Common-wealth and State.	Adelaide and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note D.	Common-wealth and State.	Perth and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note E.	Common-wealth and State.	Hobart and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas. See note F.
Monthly Averages.												
1936-37 ..	..	153	98	..	118	32	..	168	..	..	32	19
1937-38 ..	..	167	114	..	173	48	..	174	..	..	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	..	20	32	16
1942-43 ..	315	10	5	102	49	43	110	14	1	22	5	5
1943-44 ..	371	16	8	19	58	17	55	20	2	5	5	3
1944-45 ..	203	62	35	34	80	26	52	50	7	18	13	7
1945-46 ..	34	241	193	46	260	51	39	129	18	17	25	16
1946-47 ..	78	455	290	57	379	105	77	187	(c)60	32	(d)100	(e)144
1947-48 ..	141	557	(f)692	128	418	91	113	238	60	32	119	197
1948-49 ..	116	610	721	99	564	132	*145	338	70	47	172	266
1947-48—												
December Qtr.	107	588	668	159	368	93	144	222	67	22	123	158
March ..	159	480	662	103	399	91	101	192	48	9	97	187
June ..	181	605	712	124	425	102	116	297	48	56	103	245
1948-49—												
September Qtr.	114	584	740	97	592	119	128	387	72	83	150	300
December ..	143	609	646	88	461	134	*93	347	71	17	152	200
March ..	79	604	779	90	593	117	206	336	67	28	187	248
June ..	126	644	721	122	610	158	153	281	68	60	202	315
1949-50—												
September Qtr.	191	870	823	241	509	150	200	320	87	30	223	269
December ..	242	695	833	237	599	147	222	396	82	102	188	326
Monthly Totals.												
1949-50—												
December ..	..	642	657	..	377	..	..	301	75	..	164	271
January ..	..	694	781	..	630	..	..	409	106	..	134	302
February ..	..	703		..	1,201	..	..	574	100	..	216	417

(a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities.
(b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Includes 86 country local authorities from September quarter, 1946. See E below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946 includes Hobart and suburbs. (e) Includes all areas outside Hobart and suburbs from September quarter, 1946. See F below. (f) Includes all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs from September quarter, 1947. See C below.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville, and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes Local Government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 15 country local authorities, representing approximately 30 per cent. of provincial population to June quarter, 1946. Thereafter includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

NOTE.—The values shown exclude, in general, air raid shelters and alterations for protection against air raids

For meaning of symbols .., —, * see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by Local Government Authorities, Excludes Government Buildings except as indicated in note (a) page 27.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
				Monthly		Averages.		
1936-37 (a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38 (a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39 (a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1942-43 (a) ..	38	22	35	93	73	115	157	272
1943-44 (a) ..	62	33	34	83	96	116	183	299
1944-45 (a) ..	285	213	48	80	333	293	227	520
1945-46 (a) ..	1,531	1,635	107	156	1,638	1,791	399	2,190
1946-47 ..	2,209	2,976	156	512	2,365	3,488	596	4,084
1947-48 ..	2,381	3,649	124	453	2,505	4,102	585	4,687
1948-49 ..	2,613	4,457	110	440	2,723	4,897	680	5,577
				Monthly		Totals.		
1947-48—								
February ..	1,932	2,973	121	325	2,053	3,298	715	4,013
March ..	2,307	3,578	118	409	2,425	3,987	708	4,695
April ..	2,875	4,707	118	279	2,993	4,986	465	5,451
May ..	2,652	4,343	125	601	2,777	4,944	586	5,530
June ..	2,472	3,861	110	367	2,582	4,228	506	4,734
1948-49—								
July ..	2,669	4,322	134	514	2,803	4,836	746	5,582
August ..	2,563	4,238	126	346	2,689	4,584	642	5,226
September ..	2,338	3,991	99	406	2,437	4,397	867	5,264
October ..	2,336	3,903	102	288	2,438	4,191	576	4,767
November ..	2,533	4,201	112	377	2,645	4,578	631	5,209
December ..	2,163	3,719	84	622	2,247	4,341	496	4,837
January ..	2,134	3,611	67	534	2,201	4,145	751	4,896
February ..	2,526	4,447	79	563	2,605	5,010	480	5,490
March ..	3,485	5,906	119	411	3,604	6,317	903	7,220
April ..	2,620	4,548	110	339	2,730	4,887	822	5,709
May ..	3,220	5,719	168	399	3,388	6,118	683	6,801
June ..	2,762	4,883	121	479	2,883	5,362	560	5,922
1949-50—								
July ..	2,512	4,282	81	294	2,593	4,576	450	5,026
August ..	2,828	5,186	102	347	2,930	5,533	868	6,401
September ..	3,004	5,661	121	531	3,125	6,192	944	7,136
October ..	2,932	5,348	99	342	3,031	5,690	817	6,507
November ..	2,995	5,708	104	334	3,099	6,042	770	6,812
December ..	2,167	4,086	93	374	2,260	4,460	641	5,101
January ..	2,859	5,210	68	263	2,927	5,473	712	6,185
February ..	3,360	6,352	125	639	3,485	6,991	982	7,973

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart.

NOTE.—The National Security (Building Control) Regulations, which operated from 5th December, 1940, placed the granting of building permits for new buildings or alterations costing more than £5,000 under the control of the Commonwealth Treasurer. Various amending regulations made the control more stringent. On 19th June, 1942, the control passed to the Department for War Organization of Industry, after which date only alterations costing less than £25 could be made without consent. From 31st August, 1945, when control passed to the Department of Works and Housing, consent was not necessary for the erection of a dwelling house costing less than £1,200 or for repairs and alterations to a residential building costing less than £150 in any financial year. As from 1st November, 1945, the Commonwealth Government relinquished control over building permits and delegated its powers under National Security Regulations to the States until State legislation had been introduced. This action has been taken in all States except Tasmania, which discontinued control over building permits from 31st December, 1946. The "value of permits" shown above relates to the value of building permits issued by local government authorities and not to approvals granted under the Regulations. The values shown exclude in general, air raid shelters and alterations for protection against air raids.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.						Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Bricks.	Terra-cotta Roofing Tiles.	Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber.(a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas (b)	Electric. (c)	
	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Monthly Averages.										
1936-37	53,068	2,630	522	53.6	60.0	567	..	..	..	..
1937-38	57,403	3,023	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39	60,046	3,307	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1942-43	15,494	327	1,232	72.4	60.9	132	3,248	1,657	513	272
1943-44	8,996	254	1,419	72.2	57.7	137	2,851	1,315	376	817
1944-45	12,615	767	1,205	70.2	57.8	202	3,146	1,487	774	1,742
1945-46	25,437	1,961	1,322	74.2	60.3	451	3,864	1,839	(e) 688	3,384
1946-47	41,439	3,118	1,610	87.3	73.5	755	3,629	2,264	894	5,711
1947-48	48,156	3,483	1,641	93.1	84.4	977	4,438	3,474	2,532	9,345
1948-49†	52,173	3,768	1,509	(f) 101.0	90.3	1,123	4,897	4,350	3,196	12,116
Monthly Totals.										
1947-48—										
February	46,114	3,339	1,578	90.9	76.6	953	4,403	3,255	2,519	9,794
March	50,655	3,680	1,510	93.2	82.8	1,056	4,568	3,269	3,164	10,361
April	49,668	3,553	1,541	92.7	85.4	1,089	4,914	4,008	2,965	9,563
May	50,561	3,558	1,679	91.0	88.1	1,087	4,930	4,277	3,006	10,692
June	51,610	3,746	1,625	94.6	88.5	1,131	5,289	4,271	3,539	10,717
1948-49†—				(f)		(f)				
July	52,447	3,827	1,702	98.5	91.2	1,146	5,652	4,655	2,610	11,360
August	57,164	4,062	1,490	102.4	96.8	1,175	5,603	5,200	2,939	11,954
September	59,280	4,305	1,806	109.3	98.4	1,229	5,682	4,453	2,651	13,815
October	54,431	4,032	1,720	108.0	93.1	1,142	5,184	4,207	3,412	12,932
November	55,976	4,132	1,523	108.7	90.8	1,203	5,132	4,458	3,198	14,232
December	50,040	3,548	1,315	100.8	79.1	988	4,298	4,121	2,965	12,324
January	35,033	2,619	1,237	79.2	48.4	879	3,009	3,079	2,566	9,835
February	50,810	3,825	1,493	97.2	88.5	1,119	4,534	4,409	3,466	11,606
March	56,262	3,920	1,607	102.8	99.4	1,200	4,768	4,961	3,931	13,610
April	49,124	3,540	1,381	88.6	88.3	1,061	4,597	4,165	3,639	11,043
May	56,939	3,924	1,527	106.7	115.0	1,237	5,424	4,670	3,572	12,881
June	48,574	3,480	1,306	110.1	94.1	1,092	4,882	3,820	3,404	9,801
1949-50†—										
July	24,052	1,847	406	105.2	26.1	758	*2,797	1,620	759	5,344
August	36,232	2,765	1,048	106.6	63.8	871	4,412	2,811	1,333	7,865
September	56,362	4,086	1,766	113.6	118.7	1,083	5,461	4,582	2,878	14,523
October	52,947	4,131	1,954	108.0	113.5	1,048	5,329	4,393	2,771	14,652
November	58,942	4,516	1,905	116.4	108.6	1,096	5,796	4,459	*3,734	16,791
December	46,928	3,674	1,521	103.0	94.9	845	5,175	3,896	*2,793	15,400
January					84.2		3,859	2,742	2,190	10,482
February					103.6		5,367		2,920	12,975

(a) Includes sawn sleepers. (b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1946-47—thereafter household cooking stoves only.
(c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stoves, and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only.
(d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation. (e) Average of six months' production. (f) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols *, ..., †, — see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOODSTUFFS.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Total. (d)
			Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Milk Products. (b)	Beef (including Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Pork.	Bacon and Ham. (c)	
	'000 Short Tons.	'000 Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 Tons.
Monthly Averages.											
1936-37 ..	102.4	27.0	13,908	1,636	(e) 2,404	45,939	16,006	9,937	3,601	2,741	79.6
1937-38 ..	104.2	28.9	15,242	2,018	(e) 2,620	49,733	17,196	9,915	3,234	2,617	84.0
1938-39 ..	114.4	28.2	16,232	2,415	(e) 2,475	46,601	17,146	9,545	3,086	2,770	80.5
Monthly Totals.											
1942-43 ..	82.9	37.0	13,696	2,998	(e) 5,758	44,539	20,233	14,196	3,251	3,900	88.1
1943-44 ..	113.2	34.9	12,569	2,971	6,313	41,723	22,949	12,779	3,790	3,810	87.0
1944-45 ..	117.7	37.0	11,431	2,872	6,226	38,426	21,435	11,514	3,549	4,687	82.0
1945-46 ..	101.6	35.7	12,131	3,414	6,606	33,887	16,482	7,738	2,927	4,049	67.1
1946-47 ..	124.1	35.2	11,568	3,518	6,667	40,647	15,214	10,002	2,502	3,972	73.8
1947-48 ..	135.2	36.3	13,139	3,453	7,691	46,833	13,802	10,804	2,280	3,826	78.9
1948-49† ..	139.9	35.7	*13,433	*3,607	8,241	47,709	14,435	11,492	2,851	3,287	80.9
Monthly Totals.											
1947-48—											
February	134.4	36.7	13,806	2,864	8,181	35,964	14,505	7,271	2,090	3,615	64.7
March ..	142.8	36.9	13,493	2,428	6,083	36,763	14,162	7,559	2,655	3,870	66.4
April ..	138.9	26.8	10,104	1,698	4,132	51,463	13,803	7,353	2,950	3,727	80.6
May ..	154.5	37.5	8,636	1,795	3,713	62,934	12,541	6,331	2,582	3,902	89.7
June ..	145.8	31.8	7,384	1,688	4,227	64,024	12,053	6,861	2,109	3,870	90.3
1948-49—	†		†	†	†				†	†	†
July ..	157.0	34.0	7,900	2,055	4,623	62,161	11,975	7,275	2,564	3,515	88.8
August ..	158.2	37.9	10,422	*3,152	6,078	53,215	12,546	8,914	2,282	3,540	81.8
September	149.6	36.1	13,345	*4,587	9,124	45,353	12,906	12,523	2,230	3,525	77.8
October ..	145.1	35.3	*17,498	*5,997	12,165	42,910	13,079	17,119	2,365	3,278	79.9
November	139.8	36.7	*18,177	*5,821	13,290	45,085	15,916	15,141	2,957	3,609	84.0
December	130.2	32.1	18,491	*5,333	12,269	40,949	17,325	18,042	4,103	3,850	85.7
January ..	136.4	48.8	17,112	*4,270	9,711	38,828	16,750	13,512	2,750	2,625	75.4
February	127.3	39.3	*14,257	*3,002	7,778	40,211	19,203	10,393	2,845	2,776	76.4
March ..	136.6	35.3	*15,390	*3,173	6,133	43,594	15,362	8,089	3,035	3,237	74.5
April ..	121.3	29.9	*12,163	*2,454	7,187	44,023	12,576	8,257	3,380	3,073	72.4
May ..	137.2	34.9	*9,149	1,861	5,464	54,509	13,336	9,294	3,148	3,381	84.9
June ..	140.0	27.9	*7,295	1,579	5,065	61,672	12,244	9,338	2,550	3,035	89.9
1949-50—											
July ..	115.9	23.9	7,392	1,997	4,384	59,957	12,036	9,425	2,484	2,989	88.0
August ..	126.1	28.2	10,168	3,109	6,346	57,412	13,600	11,287	2,454	3,380	89.4
September	149.2	40.1	13,901	4,634	9,121	56,844	16,505	17,924	2,383	3,093	97.9
October ..	148.0	40.2	19,083	6,276	13,362	42,453	17,113	22,299	1,971	3,191	88.2
November	143.1	41.9	21,520	6,532	14,801	42,343	19,379	22,481	2,526	3,744	91.8
December	131.4	37.7	21,329	6,212	14,389	42,418	20,014	18,492	3,487	4,242	90.2
January ..	119.0	34.8	17,386	4,594	11,922	41,236	21,048	11,631	2,152	2,682	80.0
February..	100.0		14,724	3,176	8,667	44,702	19,361	7,867	2,252	2,748	78.0

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Cured weight.

(b) Excludes casein and sterilized cream.
(d) In terms of fresh meat.

(e) Incomplete.

For meaning of symbols *, † see page 1.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Black Coal Produced.			Metals.						Gas made in Gasworks.	Total Electricity Generated.
	Under-ground.	Open Cut.	Total.	Pig-iron.	Ingot Steel. (a)	Zinc, Refined.	Lead, Refined including Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)	Gold Refined.		
	'000 Tons.	'000 Tons.	'000 Tons.	'000 Tons.	'000 Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kwh.
Monthly Averages.											
1936-37 ..	..	..	946	76.1	89.5	5,840	17,562	1,280	108.2	1,679	331
1937-38 ..	..	..	959	77.5	96.6	5,810	18,797	1,437	123.3	1,746	363
1938-39 ..	..	..	1,016	92.1	*97.4	5,819	19,416	1,457	134.2	*1,873	391
1942-43 ..	..	..	1,210	116.6	135.5	6,417	17,902	1,878	77.5	2,414	554
1943-44 ..	..	..	1,149	108.8	127.0	6,717	14,323	1,682	56.8	2,496	556
1944-45 ..	..	..	1,152	93.1	112.1	6,612	12,933	1,683	54.4	2,617	570
1945-46 ..	..	..	1,055	75.5	87.9	6,705	12,797	1,725	57.4	2,663	576
1946-47 ..	..	..	1,181	95.3	*109.3	5,859	*14,761	1,822	76.6	2,784	627
1947-48 ..	..	..	†(c)1,228	*103.0	111.9	6,203	14,522	1,290	75.5	3,025	697
1948-49 ..	†1,081	†176	†(c)1,257	†88.2	†97.1	†6,908	17,059	917	†78.4	*3,048	754
Monthly Totals.											
1947-48—	†(c)	†(c)	†(c)								
February ..	992	145	1,137	98.5	102.0	6,209	11,787	1,161	55.6	..	642
March ..	977	136	1,113	105.6	103.1	6,672	13,417	596	64.8	..	691
April ..	1,125	159	1,284	102.8	111.3	6,440	15,064	1,565	62.5	..	706
May ..	1,134	138	1,272	105.5	120.1	6,639	17,004	797	69.7	..	763
June ..	1,070	142	1,212	87.2	†105.4	6,102	16,610	964	81.3	..	786
1948-49—				†	†	†					
July ..	1,202	187	1,389	85.0	94.4	7,201	18,810	1,225	108.3	3,249	807
August ..	1,238	201	1,439	92.4	104.0	7,274	18,326	669	75.8	3,389	775
September ..	1,231	182	1,413	101.0	106.8	6,936	17,528	796	71.1	3,202	752
October ..	1,069	165	1,234	90.3	90.6	7,297	18,570	588	74.0	3,151	752
November ..	1,206	164	1,370	70.0	65.5	7,090	17,738	803	78.1	2,843	735
December ..	1,054	155	1,209	97.4	105.2	6,903	13,326	1,218	80.1	2,839	710
January ..	648	110	758	84.1	87.8	6,418	15,216	429	†68.9	2,754	680
February ..	1,056	156	1,212	85.1	97.7	6,089	16,699	1,480	67.1	2,638	695
March ..	1,176	206	1,382	93.9	103.2	6,678	16,780	623	68.3	3,020	784
April ..	1,000	182	1,182	81.5	91.0	6,834	15,426	1,239	71.0	3,066	741
May ..	1,223	227	1,450	90.4	113.2	7,217	17,354	1,252	72.5	3,463	824
June ..	870	173	1,043	69.9	69.8	6,956	18,938	682	105.3	2,967	788
1949-50—											
July ..	57	71	128	16.9	—	6,802	4,873	215	65.1	1,822	625
August ..	847	284	1,131	40.2	45.9	6,179	5,975	521	71.3	2,291	735
September ..	1,371	219	1,590	108.3	134.0	6,751	18,542	1,123	75.0	3,242	799
October ..	1,278	209	1,487	116.4	128.7	7,232	18,304	858	77.4	3,184	798
November ..	1,393	282	1,675	124.0	128.0	7,050	17,166	754	81.8	3,019	794
December ..	876	183	*1,059	118.6	131.8	7,351	19,381	348	73.4	2,917	*755
January ..			1,040	115.8	116.4	7,329	18,410	423	65.6	2,727	751
February ..			1,261	100.5	112.8	6,647	17,451	1,549	62.3		

(a) Excludes a very small amount produced outside New South Wales. (b) Source: Australian Mines and Metals Association. (c) Source: Joint Coal Board.

For meaning of symbols .., —, *, † see page 1.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Beer.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Sulphuric Acid (100%).	Superphosphate.	Boots and Shoes (not rubber).	Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.
	'000 gals.	'000 lb.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 pairs.	'000.
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37	6,261	1,741	36,399	*90,852	1,208	..
1937-38	7,084	1,906	41,274	*102,820	1,176	..
1938-39	7,523	2,379	40,791	99,954	1,164	..
1942-43	8,348	2,138	18,332	37,918	1,407	57
1943-44	8,510	2,063	19,751	45,308	1,394	*70
1944-45	8,613	1,896	27,751	69,954	1,388	63
1945-46	9,033	2,054	35,102	92,109	1,170	94
1946-47	10,657	2,354	*38,318	97,541	1,306	141
1947-48	*10,430	2,424	*40,407	98,838	1,351	143
1948-49	12,331	2,341	48,591	118,595	1,267	143
Monthly Totals.						
1947-48—						
February	11,160	2,395	34,505	79,167	1,272	135
March	8,411	2,344	42,360	104,213	1,362	149
April	7,087	2,400	41,989	100,047	1,357	150
May	9,482	2,204	44,616	104,577	1,373	151
June	10,988	2,150	45,756	119,624	1,417	147
1948-49—						
July	10,800	2,406	38,801	79,379	1,378	160
August	11,560	1,915	48,972	116,143	1,322	158
September	12,181	2,408	47,768	134,158	1,352	146
October	12,334	2,472	50,922	118,166	1,241	159
November	13,158	2,679	47,642	110,703	1,353	163
December	13,367	2,438	46,020	126,444	1,079	119
January	12,825	2,022	45,985	102,633	880	97
February	12,549	2,279	48,007	121,818	1,249	138
March	14,088	2,581	52,846	134,742	1,421	154
April	10,973	2,220	49,975	111,836	1,164	134
May	13,090	2,467	54,215	135,065	1,411	165
June	11,046	2,201	51,940	132,050	1,358	126
1949-50—						
July	6,335	2,353	29,481	72,006	1,016	69
August	10,977	2,528	49,995	128,574	1,377	159
September	13,531	2,270	51,218	125,513	1,417	181
October	13,513	2,567	44,274	112,513	1,370	169
November	14,177	2,899	50,831	129,296	1,443	195
December	14,381	2,496	50,719	114,099	1,063	142
January	14,119	1,927	54,836	135,588	864	114
February	13,601	2,467	46,834	121,324	1,264	176

(a) Quantity upon which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols *, .. see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES: VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Recomputed from the original base 1937 = 100, as published in the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base : Average 3 years 1937 to 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium.	Canada.	Denmark.	France. (a)	Japan.	Nether- lands. (b)	Norway.	Poland. (c)	Sweden.	United King- dom. (d)	U.S.A.
1937	112	101	98	100	94	96	98	..	97	..	109
1938	91	96	98	92	100	97	98	100	98	..	86
1939	97	102	105	..	106	107	104	..	106	..	105
1943 .. ..	..	187	86	47	124	62	79	..	105	..	231
1944 .. ..	..	187	85	30	135	41	75	..	111	..	227
1945 .. ..	..	165	72	39	53	30	68	..	109	..	196
1945-46 ..	(f)83	152	82	(f)73	(f)19	(g)55	83	..	131	(f)100	163
1946-47 ..	91	157	101	(f)87	(f)25	83	106	(f)108	132	108	177
1947-48 ..	100	167	122	95	29	101	119	(f)141	136	117	182
1948-49 ..	108	171	129	109	44	116	126	161	141	125	180
1947-48—			(h)								
February ..	100	170	125	102	28	97	129	..	138	123	183
March	105	171	129	104	31	104	125	..	138	119	181
April	106	172	127	106	32	105	126	..	141	124	180
May	106	171	131	107	34	102	135	..	138	118	185
June	99	169	131	106	35	112	130	..	138	123	186
1948-49—											
July	97	164	91	96	38	110	77	142	138	112	180
August	103	165	126	89	38	102	120	150	138	110	187
September ..	109	172	133	104	42	114	127	154	140	124	190
October	109	174	134	96	43	119	125	159	141	126	192
November ..	108	173	135	106	41	122	131	164	142	129	189
December ..	109	174	129	110	43	123	122	157	142	123	183
January	107	167	128	*109	45	115	129	162	142	124	180
February ..	110	169	130	116	46	109	138	157	143	130	179
March	110	174	132	*117	51	124	134	176	142	131	174
April	107	173	135	118	52	114	133	170	143	*124	171
May	109	176	140	120	52	119	137	175	142	134	168
June	107	178	136	118	52	119	133	166	142	130	164
1949-50—											
July	93	167	102	106	54	120	87	174	141	118	157
August	99	168	134	92	54	117	118	180	138	118	*168
September ..	103	177	144	112	53	128	132	184	141	132	172
October	106	174	141	112	54	133	*135	..	142	134	163
November ..	107	*174	144	113	53	135	*139	..	144	*139	168
December ..	107	175	145	115	55	*131	130	..	143	131	172
January .. ..	..	173	137	119	52	129	132	..	..	..	172
February ..	..	..	142	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	171

(a) Base 1937 = 100. (b) Manufacturing, mining and public utilities. (c) Base 1938 = 100. (d) Interim index prepared to provide an overall measure of monthly changes in total industrial production (including supplies and equipment for Armed Forces). Includes mining and quarrying, manufacturing industries, building and contracting, gas, electricity and water. Base 1946 = 100. (e) Eight months May-December. (f) Year ended December. (g) Eleven months August-June. (h) Monthly figures revised, now adjusted for number of working days.

For meaning of symbols ... * see page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Excludes Defence Service Vehicles.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period (a)		
	Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles, &c.	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles, &c.	Motor Cycles.
1936-37	499,289	214,296	77,912	48,587	24,191	7,479
1937-38	534,963	241,751	80,114	55,125	27,402	8,323
1938-39(a)	562,271	258,025	79,237	54,107	24,927	7,370
1942-43	471,742	255,933	48,321	2,360	3,084	389
1943-44	493,391	274,269	52,560	825	12,635	340
1944-45	505,782	290,961	57,239	899	7,654	411
1945-46	522,615	333,129	72,701	2,123	8,686	1,953
1946-47	550,400	375,646	86,712	21,237	16,317	8,220
1947-48	593,077	414,072	100,196	42,745	28,769	14,308
1948-49	655,497	452,147	117,133	66,471	36,678	22,226
1947-48—						
February	575,787	403,212	95,457	3,357	2,147	1,496
March	578,250	404,997	96,723	3,827	2,279	1,545
April	584,459	409,670	98,454	4,508	2,336	1,498
May	588,716	410,371	99,431	4,760	2,565	1,408
June	593,077	414,072	100,196	4,777	2,861	1,347
1948-49—						
July	596,220	414,071	100,731	5,693	3,122	1,598
August	603,696	419,027	102,392	5,917	2,967	1,623
September	609,539	423,529	104,264	5,876	3,348	1,651
October	614,597	426,580	105,423	5,649	3,239	1,766
November	623,089	431,725	107,273	5,226	3,099	1,887
December	628,928	435,847	108,868	5,033	3,189	1,941
January	628,406	436,566	109,673	3,468	2,116	1,610
February	633,057	439,374	111,582	4,782	2,250	2,036
March	639,661	443,641	113,200	6,136	3,316	2,320
April	641,289	444,097	114,196	5,355	3,043	1,978
May	648,637	448,433	115,457	7,087	3,448	2,002
June	655,497	452,147	117,133	6,249	3,541	1,814
1949-50—						
July	659,894	450,578	116,538	6,145	3,409	1,792
August	669,619	457,403	118,666	6,229	3,535	2,076
September	676,863	462,238	120,381	7,118	3,932	2,279
October	681,573	465,462	121,703	7,292	4,304	2,245
November	691,859	471,356	123,666	10,624	5,282	2,480
December	702,380	476,623	125,770	10,794	5,643	2,538
January	709,407	477,212	126,883	7,505	3,894	2,214
February†	714,314	480,160	127,375	9,554	4,367	2,290

(a) Excludes Northern Territory; also extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS : FREIGHT, PASSENGERS AND REVENUE.

The following table shows statistics of freight and passengers carried and of revenue earned on the five Mainland State Railways to the end of June, 1947. From July, 1947 particulars relate to all State and Commonwealth Railway Systems.

The daily average number of passenger-journeys is obtained by dividing the monthly totals by the total number of days in the month.

Period.	Freight Carried.		Passenger-Journeys.	Gross Revenue.	Net Revenue.
	Net Ton Miles.	Average haul per ton.			
	Daily Average. '000.	Miles.	Daily Average. '000.	Per Month. £'000.	Per Month £'000.
1936-37	12,820	125.9	1,028	3,407	886
1937-38	13,976	125.0	1,048	3,632	886
1938-39	13,085	127.0	1,048	3,580	694
1942-43	19,793	153.7	1,409	6,615	1,540
1943-44	19,694	155.6	1,445	6,434	1,190
1944-45	18,389	150.0	1,457	5,869	1,056
1945-46	16,893	147.1	1,485	5,576	823
1946-47	17,406	148.4	1,368	5,303	427
1947-48	18,510	144.4	1,395	6,376	443
1948-49	19,317	146.2	1,381	7,174	89
1948-49—	(a)	(a)			(b)
September	20,222	139.9	1,379	7,255	523
October	21,213	152.9	1,382	7,242	432
November	20,141	146.7	1,432	7,224	-78
December	18,820	150.8	1,326	7,424	443
January	17,867	153.5	1,297	6,888	190
February	19,299	140.5	1,492	6,803	2
March	19,117	144.8	1,377	7,435	206
April	17,974	143.6	1,428	7,172	32
May	20,125	144.7	1,454	7,606	-238
June	17,110	156.2	1,331	7,264	-1,182
1949-50—					
July	9,896	139.6	1,051	4,119	-2,320
August	15,956	143.6	1,265	6,213	-448
September	21,626	146.3	1,326	7,852	331
October	21,637	149.7	1,425	8,156	624
November	22,198	143.8	1,375	8,453	262
December	20,724	159.3	1,330	8,370	337

(a) Excludes Tasmania.

(b) These figures do not present satisfactory monthly comparisons, because of the periodical inclusion in expenditure of amounts to be set aside for special purposes. Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

MAINLAND STATE RAILWAYS: GROSS REVENUE.(a)

Period	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Total.
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
July-February, 1948-49 ..	26,156	11,320	10,180	3,631	3,441	54,728
July-February, 1949-50 ..	24,589	12,952	10,413	(b) 3,860	4,054	55,868

(a) From monthly statements issued by each Treasury. These figures are on a cash basis and differ slightly from the corresponding figures in the table above, which are on an income and expenditure basis.

(b) Excludes Treasury transfers £2,340,000.

INTERSTATE SHIPPING CARGOES.

Period	Tons (weight and measurement combined) shipped from—						
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total Australia.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
Monthly Averages.							
1936-37 ..	284	92	39	184	8	68	675
1937-38 ..	309	101	37	212	8	75	742
1938-39 ..	284	94	39	241	10	78	746
1942-43(a) ..	343	87	59	212	12	71	784
1943-44(a) ..	319	86	53	220	16	76	770
1944-45(a) ..	317	96	47	217	32	66	775
1945-46(a) ..	264	70	44	158	26	56	(b) 618
1946-47 ..	283	72	46	234	17	55	(b) 707
1947-48 ..	293	64	46	216	14	58	(b) 692
1948-49 ..	288	59	43	169	11	50	(b) 620
Monthly Totals.							
1947-48—							
November ..	325	60	43	229	10	58	(b) 727
December ..	275	51	30	198	10	45	(b) 610
January ..	225	76	48	227	8	34	(b) 623
February ..	294	55	49	182	7	38	(b) 625
March ..	275	43	2	186	13	67	(b) 587
April ..	350	71	36	187	9	85	(b) 741
May ..	292	55	61	206	32	63	(b) 710
June ..	273	70	46	253	7	76	725
1948-49—							
July ..	332	68	53	220	10	68	751
August ..	297	65	53	224	11	67	717
September ..	335	68	34	211	10	56	(b) 716
October ..	354	51	26	218	8	44	701
November ..	300	56	39	195	17	55	662
December ..	316	67	55	192	11	32	(b) 675
January ..	204	52	31	219	8	42	556
February ..	251	57	43	218	6	46	621
March ..	317	45	56	168	10	54	650
April ..	248	64	42	49	8	47	458
May ..	322	60	47	49	15	54	547
June ..	178	58	32	63	17	30	(b) 378
1949-50—							
July ..	36	74	33	53	9	55	260
August ..	198	61	37	72	3	41	412
September ..	352	67	40	223	22	72	(b) 777
October ..	322	44	44	279	13	35	737
November ..	317	52	37	258	18	60	(b) 743

(a) Excludes cargo from vessels engaged exclusively in the transport of troops, war equipment and supplies.
Northern Territory.

(b) Includes

OVERSEA SHIPPING CARGOES.

Period.	Discharged.			Shipped.		
	Tons Weight.	Tons Measure.	Total (Tons W and M).	Tons Weight.	Tons Measure.	Total (Tons W and M).
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37	304	169	473	419	78	497
1937-38	364	190	554	478	91	569
1938-39	350	183	533	428	91	519
1942-43(a)	304	119	423	198	105	303
1943-44(a)	345	148	493	279	142	421
1944-45(a)	362	150	512	251	151	402
1945-46(a)	384	139	523	202	121	323
1946-47	348	116	464	259	112	371
1947-48	415	160	575	374	104	478
1948-49	487	214	701	450	113	563
Monthly Totals.						
1947-48—						
November	342	150	492	278	102	380
December	440	124	564	339	101	440
January	452	165	617	415	87	502
February	321	141	462	445	73	518
March	386	195	581	482	92	574
April	409	176	585	506	104	610
May	443	199	642	492	126	618
June	389	151	540	572	139	711
1948-49—						
July	451	216	667	583	99	682
August	428	186	614	387	106	493
September	481	202	683	466	125	591
October	490	178	668	409	161	570
November	483	184	667	379	122	501
December	451	182	633	457	118	575
January	403	240	643	446	67	513
February	514	247	761	424	96	520
March	504	226	730	446	90	536
April	554	236	790	432	131	563
May	596	222	818	548	126	674
June	486	249	735	418	118	536
1949-50—						
July	611	210	821	373	112	485
August	718	228	946	445	121	566
September	597	305	902	489	132	621
October	669	318	987	476	121	597
November	575	256	831	329	102	431

(a) Excludes cargo from vessels engaged exclusively in the transport of troops, war equipment and supplies.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, and exclude sales of vendors trading only in exempt goods. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degree. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustments to be made to the crude figures on this account. Monthly totals are compiled on a basis comparable with the monthly averages for preceding years.

(£'000.)

Period.						Australia.		
						Net Sales Recorded under Sales Tax Acts.(a)		
						Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.
						Monthly Averages. Totals complete.		
1936-37						15,440	21,751	37,191
1937-38						16,942	23,612	40,554
1938-39						16,374	23,388	39,762
1942-43						16,821	32,884	49,705
1943-44						17,851	32,622	50,473
1944-45						19,274	32,988	52,262
1945-46						22,330	33,373	55,703
1946-47						24,580	42,170	66,750
1947-48						26,193	53,329	79,522
1948-49						30,264	63,115	93,379
						Monthly Totals. Partly Estimated.		
						Taxable Sales—Rates.		
						8½ per cent.	10 per cent.	25 per cent.
1948-49—								
July			29,494	1,037	30,531	60,126	90,657	
August			28,420	1,040	29,460	62,058	91,518	
September			30,984	1,097	32,081	65,213	97,294	
October			28,940	1,165	30,105	62,528	92,633	
November			30,175	1,455	31,630	66,216	97,846	
December			29,729	1,230	30,959	59,967	90,926	
January			21,981	646	22,627	51,260	73,887	
February			27,920	932	28,852	61,824	90,576	
March			33,452	1,091	34,543	66,913	101,456	
April			28,599	973	29,572	61,069	90,641	
May			31,341	1,041	32,382	71,926	104,308	
June			29,588	837	30,425	68,280	98,705	
1949-50—								
July			28,262	885	29,147	59,080	88,227	
August†			31,200	1,100	32,300	63,500	95,800	
September†			27,500	9,000	37,500	71,000	108,500	

(a) The rates of tax per cent. were 5 from 22.9.38; 6 from 9.9.39; 8½ from 3.5.40; 5, 10 and 15 on different classes of goods from 22.11.40; 5, 10 and 20 from 30.10.41; 12½ and 25 from 1.5.42; 10 and 25 from 15.11.46; 8½ and 25 from 8.9.49. From 21.7.43, rationed clothing, &c., was reduced to 7½ per cent. and was exempted from 15.11.46. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The list of exemptions was extended as from 13.12.38; 26.9.39; and restricted as from 3.6.40; 22.11.40; 30.10.41. As from 1.5.42, 3.7.43, 21.7.43, 8.9.44 there was a partial restoration of former exemptions. As from 13.9.45, 10.4.46, 15.11.46 20.9.47 and 9.9.48 further former exemptions were restored and additional exemptions granted.

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

RETAIL TRADE.

Statistics of retail sales are collected in three States but are available for publication in only two, namely, New South Wales and Queensland. In New South Wales the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau, in co-operation with the Commonwealth Bank, collects returns from a number of large Sydney stores. In Queensland returns are collected by the Bureau of Industry from twelve large department stores in Brisbane and their branches in country towns. It is uncertain to what extent the department store figures are representative of all retail trade.

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES: PERCENTAGE CHANGE ON PREVIOUS YEAR.

Period.	Sydney.					Queensland				
	Average of 3 months ended—				Year.	Average of 3 months ended—				Year.
	September.	December.	March.	June.		September.	December.	March.	June.	
1936-37 ..	+6.5	+4.6	+4.5	+5.7	+5.3	+0.8	-2.6	-3.0	-1.3	-1.5
1937-38 ..	+8.1	+11.7	+6.3	+6.7	+8.3	+1.4	+6.1	+2.7	+5.1	+4.0
1938-39 ..	+4.7	+2.3	+4.6	-3.1	+1.9	+3.7	+1.1	+0.7	+3.5	+2.6
1943-44 ..	-19.3	-1.6	+1.3	-1.8	-5.7	-2.1	+3.5	+3.0	+4.6	+2.4
1944-45 ..	+6.6	+7.4	+4.8	+3.2	+5.4	+7.6	+10.0	+1.0	-0.3	+4.5
1945-46 ..	+22.5	+30.8	+37.2	+35.3	+31.6	+16.5	+27.7	+22.4	+24.8	+23.3
1946-47 ..	+34.6	+25.0	+14.9	+19.0	+23.7	+14.6	+9.3	+9.9	+15.8	+12.4
1947-48 ..	+23.6	+17.1	+19.5	+18.5	+19.5	+26.0	+17.9	+12.3	+11.4	+16.6
1948-49 ..	+15.6	+13.1	+16.9	+6.2	+12.7	+12.7	+8.2	+11.7	+7.0	+9.6
1949-50 ..	-4.5	+10.3				-1.4	+5.3			
	Month of—		Average of 3 months ended—			Month of—		Average of 3 months ended—		
1947-48—										
January		+23.8		+16.7			+19.3		+16.4	
February		+15.0		+19.1			+11.8		+15.2	
March ..		+19.6		+19.5			+6.5		+12.3	
April ..		+35.2		+24.0			+15.1		+11.3	
May ..		+11.9		+21.8			+16.5		+13.2	
June ..		+9.7		+18.5			+3.7		+11.4	
1948-49—										
July ..		+30.4		+16.4			+23.8		+14.0	
August ..		+19.3		+19.1			+11.0		+12.2	
September		+1.9		+15.6			+4.5		+12.7	
October		+4.2		+8.3			+8.3		+7.7	
November		+19.8		+8.2			+7.2		+6.7	
December		+15.5		+13.1			+9.0		+8.2	
January ..		+12.2		+16.0			+6.9		+7.9	
February		+16.1		+14.7			+11.3		+9.1	
March ..		+21.1		+16.9			+17.1		+11.7	
April ..		+1.4		+12.1			+9.4		+12.3	
May ..		+15.2		+12.3			+10.7		+2.0	
June ..		+2.4		+6.2			+0.9		+7.0	
1949-50—										
July ..		-16.3		+0.9			-9.1		+1.0	
August ..		-2.8		-5.3			+5.4		-1.2	
September		+4.1		-4.5			+0.4		-1.4	
October..		+10.0		+3.5			+4.4		+3.4	
November		+13.2		+9.1			+4.3		+3.1	
December		+8.2		+10.3			+6.8		+5.3	
January		+7.6		+9.7						

NINE TRADING BANKS. (a)
(Excludes Commonwealth Bank.)
(£'000.)

Period.		Business within Australia.								
		Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Govern- ment and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Com- monwealth Bank.	Cash.	Treasury Bills	
		Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.						
Averages of Weekly Figures.										
1936-37	184,722	112,880	297,602	262,496	15,047	—	34,199	24,512
1937-38	194,785	120,022	314,807	274,365	21,411	—	37,114	20,728
1938-39	198,793	118,868	317,661	288,109	20,477	—	33,597	21,533
1942-43	193,357	233,300	426,657	248,719	62,906	68,420	43,322	59,443
1943-44	211,703	290,988	502,691	232,421	79,961	139,965	40,908	63,826
1944-45	224,023	343,773	567,796	208,719	105,842	207,992	38,038	60,283
1945-46	220,415	385,953	606,368	212,178	115,272	238,098	38,462	59,782
1946-47	206,862	429,749	636,611	261,140	95,026	264,991	37,928	25,831
1947-48	201,891	471,604	673,495	329,850	65,606	262,258	44,389	18,089
1948-49	211,262	565,140	776,402	368,582	61,455	322,670	48,016	22,110
1947-48—										
March	200,659	504,979	705,638	333,693	59,051	275,163	49,414	26,390
April	200,755	508,741	709,496	338,123	59,097	280,478	49,803	31,300
May	200,812	507,546	708,358	344,144	58,966	286,728	44,104	25,750
June	200,235	516,595	716,830	348,779	59,469	292,953	45,562	19,090
1948-49—										
July	199,272	499,317	698,589	361,759	59,565	284,853	40,644	11,600
August	199,202	489,086	688,288	361,553	59,594	271,603	45,653	12,450
September	202,386	516,582	718,968	363,387	59,249	267,353	54,328	20,210
October	211,413	530,850	742,263	372,587	58,357	269,978	52,887	26,913
November	213,314	550,791	764,105	373,648	60,468	286,791	49,312	28,550
December	213,235	575,364	788,599	371,525	61,225	304,573	50,263	29,950
January(e)	215,480	575,644	791,124	363,150	61,253	321,128	53,778	31,950
February	214,659	598,677	813,336	363,189	62,050	344,116	51,385	32,100
March	213,957	612,043	826,000	360,016	64,928	365,103	47,662	28,380
April	218,427	612,191	830,618	372,720	64,384	379,366	44,632	19,050
May	217,755	608,423	826,178	375,131	63,404	389,053	45,605	12,725
June	215,924	601,486	817,410	383,334	62,464	381,233	39,993	11,140
1949-50—										
July(e)	213,367	579,226	792,593	391,973	69,258	341,141	42,374	11,000
August	212,643	578,464	791,107	390,489	72,720	326,353	47,228	13,300
September	211,672	590,594	802,266	393,684	76,618	308,328	49,760	17,200
October	211,336	610,038	821,374	400,712	75,670	306,953	51,797	25,200
November	221,092	644,147	865,239	404,628	76,103	320,253	56,296	30,600
December	222,180	692,385	914,565	403,973	77,498	337,453	58,016	44,375
January	226,848	703,002	929,850	400,902	84,744	364,453	59,369	37,000
February	228,938	737,754	966,692	399,849	92,495	409,703	51,975	31,750
March	231,414	775,155	1,006,569	404,696	92,503	433,853	54,465	34,950

(a) Bank of Adelaide, Bank of Australasia, Bank of New South Wales, Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., National Bank of Australasia Ltd., Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in voluntary liquidation) and Union Bank of Australia Ltd. Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Excludes inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for this and following periods are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Technical adjustments in the method of compiling advances and deposits were made by two banks from January, 1949, and by another from July, 1949. The effect was to reduce both deposits and advances by approximately £9,000,000 in January, 1949, and £2,600,000 in July, 1949.

For meaning of symbols —, ——— see page 1.

NINE TRADING BANKS. (a)—continued.

(Excludes Commonwealth Bank.)

Period	Percentages of various categories of assets to total deposits.(b)					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits. (b)
	Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Averages of Weekly Figures.						
1936-37	11.49	19.73	88.20	93.26	—	37.93
1937-38	11.79	18.37	87.15	93.95	—	38.13
1938-39	10.58	17.36	90.70	97.15	—	37.42
1942-43	10.15	24.08	58.29	73.03	16.04	54.68
1943-44	8.14	20.84	46.24	62.15	27.84	57.89
1944-45	6.70	17.31	36.76	55.40	36.63	60.55
1945-46	6.34	16.20	(d)34.99	(d)54.00	39.27	63.65
1946-47	5.96	10.02	41.02	55.95	41.63	67.51
1947-48	6.59	9.28	48.98	58.72	38.94	70.02
1948-49	6.18	9.03	47.47	55.39	41.56	72.79
1947-48—						
March	7.00	10.74	47.29	55.66	38.99	71.56
April	7.02	11.43	47.66	55.99	39.53	71.70
May	6.23	9.87	48.58	56.90	40.48	71.65
June	6.36	9.02	48.66	56.96	40.87	72.07
1948-49—						
July	5.82	7.48	51.78	60.31	40.78	71.48
August	6.63	8.44	52.53	61.19	39.46	71.06
September	7.56	10.37	50.54	58.78	37.19	71.85
October	7.13	10.76	50.20	58.06	36.37	71.52
November	6.45	10.19	48.90	56.81	37.53	72.08
December	6.37	10.17	47.11	54.87	38.62	72.96
January(e)	6.80	10.84	45.90	53.64	40.59	72.76
February	6.32	10.27	44.65	52.15	42.31	73.61
March	5.77	9.21	43.59	51.45	44.20	74.10
April	5.37	7.66	44.87	52.62	45.67	73.70
May	5.52	7.06	45.41	53.09	47.09	73.65
June	4.89	6.25	46.90	54.54	46.64	73.58
1949-50—						
July(e)	5.35	6.74	49.45	58.19	43.04	73.08
August	5.97	7.65	49.36	58.55	41.25	73.12
September	6.20	8.34	49.07	58.62	38.43	73.62
October	6.31	9.38	48.79	58.00	37.37	74.27
November	6.51	10.05	46.76	55.56	37.01	74.45
December	6.34	11.19	44.17	52.64	36.90	75.71
January	6.38	10.36	43.11	52.22	39.19	75.60
February	5.38	8.66	41.36	50.83	42.38	76.31
March	5.41	8.88	40.21	49.40	43.10	77.01

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page. (b) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for this and following periods are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) See footnote (e) on previous page.

For meaning of symbols —, — see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

(GENERAL BANKING DIVISION AND RURAL CREDITS DEPARTMENT, MORTGAGE BANK DEPARTMENT AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT.)

Liabilities and Assets within Australia.(a)

(£'000.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Averages of Weekly Figures.								
1945-46(b)	21,101	35,775	56,876	20,533	7,366	5,379	35,249	
1946-47	17,574	41,372	58,946	25,698	7,176	3,131	36,488	
1947-48	13,873	44,549	58,422	33,338	7,432	1,189	32,662	
1948-49	13,214	52,346	65,560	49,230	6,871	462	34,461	
1947-48—								
March	13,416	46,672	60,088	35,523	7,878	1,000	32,020	
April	13,220	47,735	60,955	37,875	7,937	813	32,020	
May	13,014	48,233	61,247	38,693	8,056	750	32,020	
June	12,717	49,070	61,787	37,903	6,967	750	33,620	
1948-49—								
July	12,678	47,764	60,442	39,350	7,053	750	33,645	
August	12,672	46,845	59,517	41,501	5,228	750	31,120	
September	12,980	48,530	61,510	42,805	7,533	750	31,120	
October	12,639	50,570	63,209	44,168	7,526	750	31,520	
November	14,048	50,648	64,696	45,900	8,570	750	31,528	
December	14,377	52,147	66,524	47,737	7,806	750	32,728	
January	14,066	52,702	66,768	50,567	8,559	750	37,528	
February	13,453	54,526	67,979	51,872	8,609	375	37,778	
March	13,367	53,372	66,739	55,067	5,042	—	37,456	
April	13,296	56,206	69,502	56,034	5,401	—	38,074	
May	12,429	56,930	69,359	56,517	5,563	—	37,199	
June	12,478	57,399	69,877	57,658	5,870	—	34,374	
1949-50—								
July	12,740	62,381	75,121	61,256	13,857	—	32,199	
August	12,739	67,149	79,888	63,798	18,023	—	31,873	
September	12,789	69,753	82,542	64,342	23,191	—	29,573	
October	12,876	72,690	85,566	67,190	21,253	—	31,573	
November	14,151	80,032	94,183	69,345	25,700	—	34,274	
December	15,585	82,091	97,676	72,196	20,928	—	41,074	
January	15,654	76,027	91,681	74,239	14,922	—	41,073	
February	15,928	70,326	86,254	86,079	7,965	—	41,574	
March	16,393	71,673	88,066	105,891	6,176	3,500	41,073	

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays of period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Ten months ended June, 1946.

For meaning of symbol — see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS. (a)

(Includes Note Issue Department.)

(£A'000.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and Other Securities (including Treasury Bills).	
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.						
Averages of Weekly Figures.									
1945-46(b)	..	16,908	176,905	193,813	241,843	26,864	144,385	181,594	418,266
1946-47	..	18,741	180,661	199,402	266,951	24,063	122,101	217,642	392,217
1947-48	..	22,245	175,845	198,090	263,688	28,018	142,014	196,694	419,857
1948-49	..	24,912	178,649	203,561	323,930	29,764	174,647	336,175	356,260
1947-48—									
March	..	21,507	173,486	194,993	276,320	33,810	146,773	205,579	424,076
April	..	22,940	173,640	196,580	281,635	33,699	150,138	236,453	404,189
May	..	23,274	172,306	195,580	287,845	27,259	156,929	241,401	406,069
June	..	22,657	173,128	195,785	294,040	29,372	167,148	253,188	400,523
1948-49—									
July	..	23,154	173,451	196,605	285,980	23,121	176,644	260,754	381,844
August	..	23,305	173,300	196,605	272,685	28,019	180,580	266,577	370,667
September	..	23,459	173,246	196,705	268,390	37,937	162,565	280,913	354,288
October	..	23,808	173,922	197,730	271,032	35,526	186,942	303,861	365,989
November	..	24,541	174,814	199,355	288,014	31,281	186,573	322,936	358,176
December	..	27,143	180,852	208,005	305,740	30,090	182,113	342,601	355,341
January	..	26,886	173,781	205,667	322,295	34,614	174,903	340,732	362,748
February	..	24,711	173,644	203,355	345,482	34,313	160,990	351,974	354,098
March	..	24,417	180,988	205,405	366,470	30,592	160,080	375,252	339,108
April	..	26,096	184,321	210,417	380,733	25,484	175,271	387,119	352,166
May	..	26,508	183,597	210,105	390,620	25,182	175,657	396,498	347,650
June	..	24,862	186,193	211,055	382,800	20,893	177,521	393,088	341,702
1949-50—									
July	..	25,348	187,465	212,813	342,708	22,830	176,195	380,173	323,650
August	..	25,415	187,398	212,813	327,990	27,362	182,105	384,350	321,373
September	..	25,734	188,829	214,563	310,045	29,307	194,135	379,822	337,767
October	..	26,857	190,081	216,938	308,670	30,868	214,200	381,755	365,274
November	..	27,345	191,518	218,863	321,970	35,095	226,740	397,634	379,070
December	..	31,013	199,988	231,001	339,170	34,217	194,637	406,778	368,934
January	..	30,363	194,638	225,001	366,170	35,596	195,843	427,652	370,098
February	..	27,823	194,115	221,938	411,620	31,820	183,909	449,568	349,119
March	..	27,765	196,148	223,913	437,000	35,084	203,897	485,268	341,700

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays of period until December, 1946; thereafter on Wednesdays of period. (b) Ten months ended June, 1946.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS. (a)

Liabilities and Assets within Australia.(b)

(£'000.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.				
Averages of Weekly Figures.							
1945-46(c)	245,824	437,036	682,860	249,435	48,354	68,351	160,295
1946-47	229,515	481,096	710,611	309,706	47,622	29,692	139,993
1947-48(d)	221,199	528,675	749,874	394,658	54,948	20,147	108,814
1948-49	231,812	635,871	867,683	457,595	59,059	24,445	109,592
1947-48—							
March	219,923	566,112	786,035	406,200	61,020	28,665	103,652
April	219,973	571,331	791,304	413,144	61,835	33,488	104,305
May	219,743	570,237	789,980	420,892	56,687	27,875	104,319
June	219,158	580,860	800,018	424,650	56,495	20,990	106,416
1948-49—							
July	218,169	561,562	779,731	440,165	50,928	13,525	106,558
August	218,434	550,050	768,484	441,740	54,239	13,712	104,007
September	222,448	581,083	803,531	443,967	66,624	22,630	102,957
October	231,396	597,454	828,850	455,478	64,261	30,213	101,948
November	234,439	618,208	852,647	458,601	61,860	31,425	104,187
December	234,781	645,248	880,029	458,612	62,236	33,000	106,720
January (f)	237,083	648,383	885,466	453,542	67,735	35,100	111,573
February	235,868	674,056	909,924	454,873	65,213	34,975	114,011
March	235,299	687,566	922,865	455,337	57,834	30,680	117,394
April	239,398	690,057	929,455	470,220	54,072	21,100	118,243
May	237,808	685,969	923,777	473,055	54,648	14,575	115,921
June	236,244	678,569	914,813	482,931	49,148	12,210	111,527
1949-50—							
July (f)	233,729	660,515	894,244	496,304	59,573	11,000	115,295
August	232,990	664,440	897,430	497,561	68,186	13,420	117,787
September	232,304	679,140	911,444	502,265	75,760	17,400	118,955
October	232,622	701,396	934,018	512,815	76,319	25,400	119,181
November	243,914	744,085	987,999	519,229	85,944	30,800	122,148
December	246,814	795,436	1,042,250	522,006	82,968	45,050	130,522
January	251,888	801,724	1,053,612	521,247	78,239	38,000	138,213
February	254,844	835,003	1,089,847	532,224	65,110	33,050	147,825
March	258,916	876,860	1,135,776	557,756	66,743	41,000	147,770

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the *Banking Act* 1945. Includes General Banking Division and the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, the Rural Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of the Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See footnote (a), page 42. (c) Ten months ended June, 1946. (d) From January, 1948, the General Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales has been included. The General Bank Department includes the Rural Bank, Advances for Homes, Personal Loans and General Bank Divisions. (f) See footnote (e), page 40.

For meaning of symbol — see page 1.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS. (a)

All Cheque-paying Banks.

(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Averages of Weekly Figures.								
1945-46(b) ..	52,887	45,791	14,879	8,661	5,855	2,889	95	131,057
1946-47 ..	65,690	55,433	16,972	10,457	(c)7,189	3,374	119	c 159,234
1947-48(e) ..	(d)78,383	64,285	20,019	12,722	8,746	3,947	142	d 188,244
1948-49 ..	91,990	77,699	24,546	15,493	10,770	4,699	205	225,402
1947-48—								
March ..	77,182	62,098	17,527	12,785	8,625	4,389	131	182,737
April ..	77,206	69,492	18,961	13,278	9,983	4,405	169	193,494
May ..	86,273	72,182	20,457	13,760	9,269	4,353	157	206,451
June ..	93,451	75,638	25,608	16,305	9,611	4,564	175	225,352
1948-49—								
July ..	86,420	73,431	24,706	14,113	9,650	4,363	163	212,846
August ..	78,727	68,050	21,241	12,354	8,454	4,156	176	193,158
September ..	85,322	72,796	23,602	14,473	10,199	4,290	184	210,866
October ..	90,417	74,204	24,087	15,407	10,558	4,367	166	219,206
November ..	89,985	72,009	23,809	14,869	11,080	4,132	171	216,055
December ..	96,094	82,457	24,656	16,121	11,474	5,102	188	236,092
January ..	83,587	66,282	20,780	13,353	10,912	3,812	237	198,963
February ..	91,121	82,640	27,610	16,517	11,916	5,162	195	235,161
March ..	92,721	85,897	23,751	17,996	12,067	5,200	208	237,840
April ..	93,484	80,109	24,356	15,716	9,940	4,812	225	228,642
May ..	102,402	85,603	27,106	16,757	11,222	5,502	240	248,832
June ..	109,639	85,062	28,313	17,265	11,284	5,229	296	257,088
1949-50—								
July ..	101,469	87,612	28,179	16,447	11,127	5,427	341	250,602
August ..	89,362	77,327	24,124	15,115	10,524	4,733	215	221,400
September ..	100,263	89,215	26,105	16,584	12,239	5,235	213	249,854
October ..	106,857	93,452	27,835	17,995	12,658	5,082	212	264,091
November ..	118,461	99,156	30,087	19,867	14,769	5,122	239	287,701
December ..	121,687	117,531	32,906	20,621	14,439	5,346	243	312,773
January ..	105,888	90,096	27,742	18,745	15,866	4,802	240	263,379
February ..	117,702	108,231	28,433	22,331	15,694	5,703	238	298,332
March ..	130,240	114,816	30,274	22,415	16,854	6,745	286	321,630

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under *Banking Act* 1945. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Monday in period to December, 1946; thereafter averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. (b) Ten months ended June, 1946. (c) Includes Rural Department of Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia for July, 1946, and following months. (d) See footnote (d) on previous page. (e) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from the Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in voluntary liquidation) to the National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded from January, 1948.

For meaning of symbol — see page 1.

BANK CLEARINGS. (a)

Statistics of debits to customers' accounts were not available prior to September, 1945 (for September, 1945, onward see page 45). In their absence bank clearings form a useful index of the money-value of cheque payments. Since they do not include cheques deposited in the banks on which they are drawn, the figures are not exhaustive, and their comparability is sometimes impaired by the effects of banking amalgamations. Cheque clearings connected with the redemption or issue of Treasury Bills have been excluded from the following table, but adjustments have not been made for other sporadic transactions concerned with public finance.

Period.	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.	
							Weekly Averages.	Index. (b)
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	
Weekly Averages.								
1936-37	17,247	15,592	3,753	2,900	1,989	559	42,040	976
1937-38	17,964	16,323	4,038	3,040	2,092	577	44,034	1,023
1938-39	17,832	15,415	4,212	2,953	2,055	623	43,090	1,001
1942-43	26,084	25,830	5,904	4,532	2,489	813	65,652	1,525
1943-44	28,071	27,051	6,816	4,924	2,719	943	70,524	1,638
1944-45	28,556	27,839	6,895	5,127	2,777	1,032	72,226	1,678
1945-46	30,968	31,398	7,154	5,593	3,257	1,185	79,555	1,848
1946-47	38,580	35,631	7,978	6,469	3,926	1,310	93,894	2,181
1947-48	44,786	41,237	9,288	8,038	4,892	1,543	109,784	2,550
1948-49	53,519	48,870	11,131	9,663	6,039	1,778	131,000	3,043
1947-48—								
March	44,026	41,744	7,862	8,419	4,652	1,930	108,633	2,523
April	45,971	45,355	8,579	8,124	5,480	1,696	115,205	2,676
May	54,829	46,661	9,312	8,303	4,912	1,683	125,700	2,920
June	53,175	47,842	12,107	10,731	5,372	1,670	130,897	3,040
1948-49—								
July	51,257	47,462	12,414	8,576	5,214	1,768	126,691	2,943
August	45,811	42,613	9,627	7,247	4,331	1,657	111,286	2,585
September ..	52,228	48,646	10,948	9,622	5,842	1,605	128,891	2,994
October	55,191	49,677	10,689	9,657	5,890	1,715	132,819	3,084
November ..	54,128	45,531	11,420	10,097	6,410	1,599	129,185	3,000
December ..	55,227	50,948	10,627	9,878	6,660	1,743	135,083	3,137
January	45,117	38,147	8,660	8,690	6,257	1,330	108,201	2,513
February ..	51,378	48,180	12,569	10,060	6,882	2,208	131,277	3,049
March	51,909	52,908	10,088	11,302	7,005	1,985	135,197	3,140
April	54,609	52,170	10,877	9,343	5,570	1,716	134,285	3,119
May	61,526	53,827	12,383	10,345	5,921	2,174	146,176	3,395
June	61,354	52,807	13,058	10,401	6,092	1,796	145,508	3,380
1949-50—								
July	58,500	52,377	12,448	9,696	6,002	1,885	140,908	3,273
August	47,157	45,382	9,989	8,761	5,525	1,709	118,523	2,753
September ..	61,661	53,465	11,745	9,999	6,667	1,973	145,510	3,380
October	60,016	58,126	12,650	11,279	6,896	2,011	150,978	3,507
November ..	67,042	60,822	13,337	12,329	7,822	1,858	163,210	3,791
December ..	67,748	68,031	15,205	12,258	8,392	2,034	173,668	4,034
January	58,675	51,137	11,365	10,990	8,220	1,748	142,135	3,301
February ..	65,176	63,543	12,231	12,862	8,871	2,238	164,921	3,830
March	78,113	69,701	13,949	13,300	9,169	2,816	187,048	4,344

(a) For periods to December, 1946, averages of weeks ended last Monday of period; thereafter averages of weeks ended last Wednesday. (b) Base: Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000. The monthly index is based on the clearings for the month without adjustment for seasonal variations.

AMOUNTS ON DEPOSIT IN SAVINGS BANKS, ETC.

(£'000.)

Amount on deposit at end of—	New South Wales	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(a)
1936-37 ..	81,952	75,720	27,304	26,506	11,835	7,215	230,851
1937-38 ..	86,016	78,877	28,206	27,244	12,037	7,692	240,432
1938-39 ..	87,474	80,461	29,045	27,397	12,396	8,396	245,587
1942-43 ..	122,405	121,249	45,197	38,563	18,884	11,174	357,995
1943-44 ..	162,867	153,887	65,479	48,592	25,791	14,213	471,530
1944-45 ..	198,203	182,149	80,094	56,995	31,763	16,914	566,964
1945-46 ..	236,242	211,326	90,063	65,865	38,289	20,448	663,554
1946-47 ..	231,368	216,107	85,602	67,900	36,625	20,856	660,015
1947-48 ..	236,964	226,401	84,836	73,613	36,183	21,572	681,318
1948-49 ..	244,483	239,246	87,442	81,163	37,535	22,413	714,219
1948-49—							
July ..	237,265	226,774	85,033	74,004	36,124	21,611	682,623
August ..	236,910	227,221	85,159	74,433	36,215	21,851	683,573
September ..	237,246	227,814	85,275	74,725	36,245	21,851	684,955
October ..	237,831	227,810	85,474	75,321	36,343	21,836	686,424
November ..	238,030	228,581	85,828	75,975	36,456	21,817	688,515
December ..	237,924	228,472	85,801	76,394	36,298	21,719	688,416
January ..	238,564	229,421	85,628	76,945	36,477	21,740	690,600
February ..	240,000	230,683	85,612	77,860	36,569	21,988	694,562
March ..	240,282	231,411	85,637	78,434	36,650	22,070	696,336
April ..	240,452	233,504	85,731	79,035	36,887	22,177	699,644
May ..	240,467	234,903	85,732	79,370	36,929	22,241	701,515
June ..	244,483	239,246	87,442	81,163	37,535	22,413	(b) 714,219
1949-50—							
July ..	246,065	240,982	88,282	81,845	37,792	22,647	719,617
August ..	246,002	241,632	88,725	82,115	37,902	22,973	721,390
September ..	246,125	242,513	89,085	82,275	38,073	23,080	723,229
October ..	247,919	243,845	89,626	82,800	38,384	23,219	727,881
November ..	248,356	244,591	89,738	83,193	38,367	23,139	729,504
December ..	249,019	246,015	89,947	83,516	38,291	23,227	732,127
January ..	250,594	247,458	89,708	84,136	38,347	23,387	735,773
February ..	251,755	248,322	89,993	84,809	38,493	23,685	739,234
March ..	252,633	249,369	89,827	85,239	38,710	23,849	741,830

(a) Includes Internal Territories.
was added in June.

(b) Interest added—1947-48, £11.3m.; 1948-49, £11.7m. The major part of this interest

Australian Notes held by Public on last Monday (a) in each Month.

	(£'000.)			
	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.
July ..	180,181	183,687	173,243	187,148
August ..	180,451	185,032	173,328	187,917
September ..	180,499	177,092	173,594	189,927
October ..	180,267	173,604	173,898	193,172
November ..	179,570	173,217	174,917	191,985
December ..	184,714	180,338	188,360	206,616
January ..	178,510	171,455	176,950	192,646
February ..	178,244	170,669	178,913	191,061
March ..	179,411	176,303	182,233	197,440
April ..	181,775	174,472	185,539	
May ..	181,662	172,418	184,206	
June ..	183,643	173,839	189,111	

(a) Figures relate to last Wednesday in each month from January, 1947.

Savings Certificates.—Net amounts outstanding at end of each month. First issue made 18th March, 1940:—

	(£'000.)			
	1946-47.	1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.
July ..	55,417	59,729	64,721	61,582
August ..	56,039	59,705	64,887	60,949
September ..	56,434	61,447	64,952	60,357
October ..	56,782	62,666	65,258	59,716
November ..	57,115	63,024	64,937	59,065
December ..	57,617	62,982	64,955	58,431
January ..	57,544	63,068	(a) 64,786	57,790
February ..	57,562	63,370	64,842	57,763
March ..	58,086	63,529	64,108	56,731
April ..	58,491	63,645	63,489	
May ..	58,993	64,241	62,802	
June ..	59,526	64,483	62,198	

June, 1940, £6.1m.; June, 1941, £17.4m.; June, 1942, £26.2m.; June, 1943, £35.1m.; June, 1944, £43.7m.; June, 1945, £52.5m.; and June, 1946, £54.7m. (a) Sales of Savings Certificates, except to wind up group schemes, &c., discontinued after 31st January, 1949.

INTEREST RATES AND SECURITY YIELDS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Australian Trading Banks. Interest on Fixed Deposits.				C'wealth Savings Bank.	Treasury Bills.	C'wealth Govt. Securities.				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Deposits (maxi- mum rate of interest).		Taxed at 1930 C'wealth Rates.				
							5 years and under 10.		10 years and over.		
1936-37 ..	% 2.0	% 2.5	% 2.75	% 3.0	% 2.0	% 1.75	% (a) 3.85		% (a) 3.94		
1937-38 ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.66		3.71		
1938-39 ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.83		3.84		
							Taxed at Current C'wlth. Rates.		Taxed at 1930 C'wlth. Rates.		
							Short- dated, 2 years.	Long- dated, 12 years.	Short- dated, 2 years.	Medium- dated, 7 years.	Long- dated, 12 years.
							% (b)	% (b)	% (b)	% (b)	% (b)
1942-43 ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.0	1.50	2.48	3.24	2.45	2.77	2.99
1943-44 ..	1.13	1.39	1.64	2.00	2.0	1.34	2.45	3.24	2.36	2.69	(c)
1944-45 ..	0.56	0.81	1.28	1.78	2.0	1.17	2.47	3.25	2.19	2.47	..
1945-46 ..	0.50	0.75	1.10	(d)1.60	2.0	1.00	2.19	3.24	2.22	2.71	..
1946-47 ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	1.00	1.93	3.21	2.00	2.66	..
1947-48 ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	1.00	2.34	3.16	(e)2.44	(e)2.68	..
1948-49 ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.96	2.07	3.12	(c)	(c)	..
1948-49—											
March ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	1.00	2.06	3.13	..	..	..
April ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	1.00	1.94	3.12	..	..	..
May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75(f)	2.00	3.13	..	..	..
June ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.99	3.11	..	..	..
1949-50—											
July ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.99	3.14	..	..	..
August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.93	3.13	..	..	..
September ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.99	3.14	..	..	..
October ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.96	3.13	..	..	..
November ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.97	3.13	..	..	..
December ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	2.00	3.12	..	..	..
January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.83	3.12	..	..	..
February ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.95	3.12	..	..	..
March ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.50	2.0	0.75	1.95	3.13	..	..	..

(a) Weighted averages for last Wednesday in month. Calculated, when loans above par, on earliest date of maturity.
 (b) Rate for securities maturing in 2, 7 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, 5-10 and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (c) Discontinued. (d) For December, 1945 and onward 1.50 per cent. on first £10,000 of deposit; 1.00 per cent. on amounts in excess. (e) Eight months (f) From 1st May, 1949.

RATES OF INTEREST ON FIRST MORTGAGES : NEW SOUTH WALES. URBAN SECURITIES—WEIGHTED AVERAGES.(a)

Period.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	Period.	%
	%	%	%	%	%	1949—	
March ..	5.6	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.4	October ..	4.4
June ..	5.6	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4	November ..	4.4
September ..	5.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	December ..	4.4
December ..	5.8	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	1950—	
Year Ended December	5.6	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	January ..	4.4
Year Ended June ..	5.5	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.4	February ..	4.4

(a) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.
For meaning of symbol .. see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES AND GOLD PRICES.

Period.	Exchange Rates.			Gold Prices.	
	Australia on London.(a)	London on New York.(a)	Australia on New York.(b)	Australia.(c)	London.
	£A. per £100 stg.	\$ per £ stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£ stg. per fine oz.
1936-37	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.761	7.041
1937-38	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001
1938-39	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340
1942-43	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.450	8.400
1943-44	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.452	8.400
1944-45	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.592	8.413
1945-46	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.763	8.613
1946-47	125.25	4.030	3.199	10.763	8.613
1947-48	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
1948-49	125.25	4.030	3.204	10.763	8.613
1947-48—					
March	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
April	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
May	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
June	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
1948-49—					
July	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
August	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
September	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613
October	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
November	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
December	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
January	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
February	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
March	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
April	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
May	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
June	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
1949-50—					
July	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
August	125.25	4.030	3.206	10.763	8.613
September(d)	125.25	3.538	2.792	12.763	10.128
October	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400
November	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400
December	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400
January	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400
February	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400
March	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400

(a) Average of buying and selling rates for Telegraphic Transfers. (b) Selling rate. Direct quotations. (c) Average price paid by the mints in Australia. (d) From 19th September, 1949 exchange rates were changed to London on New York, Buying \$2.80125, Selling \$2.79875; Australia on New York, Buying \$2.2425; Selling \$2.2275. Gold prices were changed to—Australia, \$15.492, London, £12.400.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

(£'000)

Government of—	July–February, 1948–49.			July–February, 1949–50 (a)		
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (–).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (–)
New South Wales(b) ..	59,887	60,965	– 1,078	68,660	70,695	– 2,035
Victoria	26,456	30,132	– 3,676	31,972	35,401	– 3,429
Queensland	20,411	21,069	– 658	23,463	23,790	– 327
South Australia	13,120	13,981	– 861	16,352	16,179	+ 173
Western Australia	12,839	13,480	– 641	15,876	15,472	+ 404
Tasmania	3,422	3,491	– 69	4,398	4,357	+ 41
Six States	136,135	143,118	– 6,983	160,721	165,894	– 5,173
Commonwealth	307,289	307,289	—	315,527	315,527	—
Grand Total(c) ..	403,622	410,605	– 6,983	420,547	425,059	– 4,512

(£'000.)

Government of—	Year 1948–49 (a)			Year 1949–50—Estimate.(a)		
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (–)	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (–)
New South Wales(b) ..	98,433	98,263	+ 170	107,450	108,465	– 1,015
Victoria	46,842	48,225	– 1,383	53,745	55,670	– 1,925
Queensland	32,979	32,929	+ 50	36,391	36,356	+ 35
South Australia	21,645	21,929	– 284	25,590	25,562	+ 28
Western Australia	20,561	21,378	– 817	23,439	23,510	– 71
Tasmania	5,740	5,845	– 105	6,742	6,884	– 142
Six States	226,200	228,569	– 2,369	253,357	256,447	– 3,090
Commonwealth	554,377	554,377	—	544,000	544,000	—
Grand Total(c) ..	708,713	711,082	– 2,369	704,561	707,651	– 3,090

(a) To avoid duplication in the aggregate figures both the revenue and expenditure of the States have been reduced by Treasury grants to railway revenue as follows:—New South Wales, 1948–49, £800,000, 1949–50 estimate, £800,000; South Australia, 1948–49, £200,000, 1949–50 estimate, £3,240,000; July–February, 1949–50, £2,340,000. On the other hand, the revenue of the States has been increased for 1949–50 estimate and July–February, 1949–50, by the inclusion of those parts of the special grants from the Commonwealth which related to the assessed grant over the special grant received in 1947–48, viz., South Australia £324,000, Western Australia £768,000 and Tasmania £262,000. (b) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, &c., from undertakings outside the Budget. (c) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and coal strike emergency grant, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT.(a)

(£'000)

Where Redeemable.	Commonwealth Securities issued on behalf of—						
	Commonwealth.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.
At 31st March, 1950—							
Australia (b) ..	158,280	—	—	—	—	—	—
London	1,470	9,796	5,805	—	3,816	2,960	491
At 31st March, 1949—							
Australia (b) ..	168,280	—	—	—	—	—	—
London	1,720	9,796	5,805	—	3,816	2,960	491

(a) Excludes overdrafts. For debt redeemable in Australia the unit of currency is £1 Australian; in London, £1 sterling.
(b) Excludes Internal Treasury Bills.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G.'s Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.(b)	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000	No	No.	No.
Monthly Averages.				
1936-37	1,318	938,331	440,471	594,855
1937-38	1,396	1,056,004	465,498	630,175
1938-39	1,447	1,129,786	487,535	661,996
1942-43	2,033	(c) 1,419,793	540,261	766,846
1943-44	2,223	1,454,302	557,072	799,729
1944-45	2,323	1,479,802	577,777	827,862
1945-46	2,371	1,506,080	607,475	855,917
1946-47	2,484	1,771,247	647,876	905,017
1947-48	2,616	1,832,816	688,348	963,154
1948-49	2,776	1,919,022	734,427	1,028,134
Monthly Totals.				
1947-48—				
February	2,454	1,841,824	675,177	944,242
March	2,609	1,843,953	678,559	949,087
April	2,744	1,862,774	682,132	954,135
May	2,562	1,819,717	685,233	958,691
June	2,834	1,832,816	688,348	963,154
1948-49—				
July	2,536	1,854,577	692,038	968,315
August	2,667	1,867,842	695,804	973,567
September	2,755	1,871,655	700,023	979,229
October	2,724	1,877,588	703,711	984,512
November	2,743	1,893,366	707,324	990,041
December	3,001	1,899,495	711,672	995,773
January	2,374	1,902,972	715,063	1,000,491
February	2,613	1,913,172	718,708	1,005,596
March	3,159	1,925,618	722,123	1,010,627
April	2,649	1,918,032	725,648	1,015,578
May	2,956	1,916,310	730,292	1,022,174
June	3,130	1,919,022	734,427	1,028,134
1949-50—				
July	2,522	1,910,856	738,723	1,034,080
August	2,935	1,947,459	744,270	1,041,282
September	2,868	1,971,608	749,024	1,047,890
October	3,062	1,978,730	753,556	1,054,276
November	3,351	1,982,530	758,309	1,060,892
December	3,515	1,986,180	762,407	1,066,385
January	3,010	1,991,312	767,135	1,072,874
February	3,332	1,998,890	771,819	1,079,657
March	3,582	2,007,632		

(a) Actual collections.
are included.

(b) Includes Papua.

(c) Commencing in July, 1942, licences for receivers in excess of one

OVERSEA MIGRATION.(a)

Permanent migration refers to persons, other than Australian troops and their dependants, intending residence for a year or more—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary migration refers to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops and dependants from July, 1947, onwards, irrespective of period.

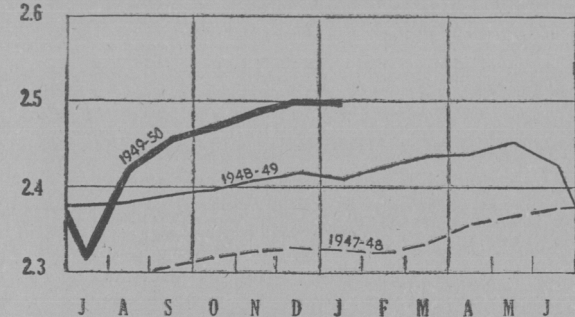
Period,	Temporary.		Permanent.		
	Australian Residents Departing Overseas.	Visitors Arriving from Overseas.	New Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals (+) or Departures (-).
Monthly Averages.					
1936-37	1,937	2,294	1,148	953	+ 195
1937-38	2,060	2,617	1,478	925	+ 553
1938-39	1,966	2,649	2,081	1,055	+1,026
1942-43	49	83	(b) 248	122	+ 126
1943-44	100	200	(b) 208	229	- 21
1944-45	255	246	(b) 342	577	- 235
1945-46	344	550	1,063	1,772	- 709
1946-47	940	1,229	1,918	2,107	- 189
1947-48	1,981	1,729	3,881	1,523	+2,358
1948-49	1,898	2,829	9,568	1,511	+8,057
Monthly Totals.					
1947-48—					
February	3,334	1,770	4,434	1,451	+ 2,983
March	1,978	2,245	3,935	1,294	+ 2,641
April	1,420	1,839	4,697	1,266	+ 3,431
May	2,187	1,757	5,745	1,210	+ 4,535
June	1,600	1,732	5,252	1,556	+ 3,696
1948-49—					
July	1,033	1,956	5,046	834	+4,212
August	1,718	2,259	7,265	2,853	+4,412
September	770	2,017	4,861	1,153	+3,708
October	1,231	2,763	7,425	1,519	+5,906
November	929	2,443	9,822	908	+8,914
December	1,673	3,459	3,879	1,081	+2,798
January	2,261	2,961	9,931	1,748	+8,183
February	3,078	3,393	10,135	1,915	+8,220
March	2,759	3,552	10,362	1,385	+8,977
April	2,321	3,395	9,838	1,418	+8,420
May	2,878	2,898	18,925	1,540	+17,385
June	2,128	2,847	17,329	1,776	+15,553
1949-50—					
July	1,424	2,429	12,032	1,733	+10,299
August	1,291	2,573	13,982	1,493	+12,489
September	1,396	2,545	14,366	1,422	+12,944
October	1,310	3,502	16,004	1,023	+14,981
November	1,772	3,407	16,368	1,393	+14,975
December	2,733	3,790	18,455	1,611	+16,844
January†	2,667	4,016	14,764	1,625	+13,139

(a) Excludes troop movements September, 1939, to June, 1947.
1943-44, 44; 1944-45, 35.

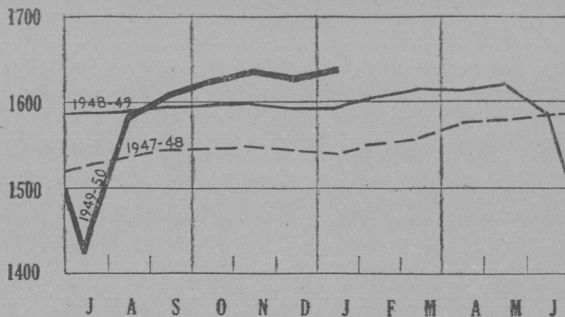
(b) Includes evacuees, monthly averages—1942-43, 102;

For meaning of symbol † see page 1.

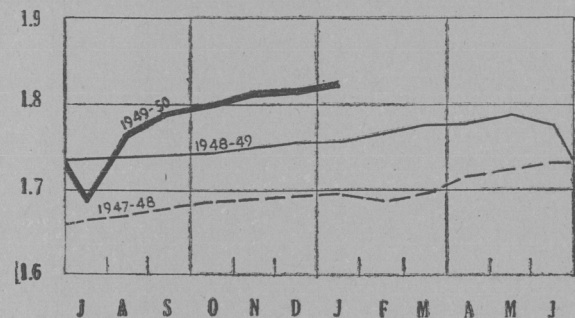
Number Millions. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (EXCL. RURAL and DOMESTIC): AUSTRALIA PERSONS



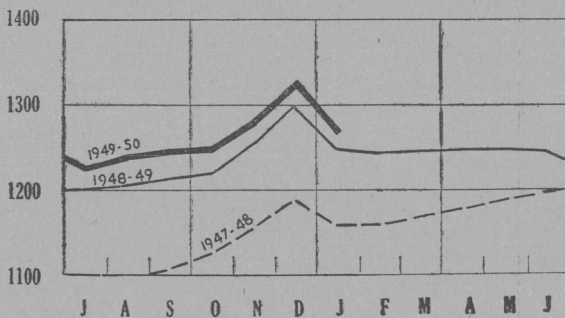
Index No. FACTORY EMPLOYMENT INDEX: AUSTRALIA AVERAGE 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 1000



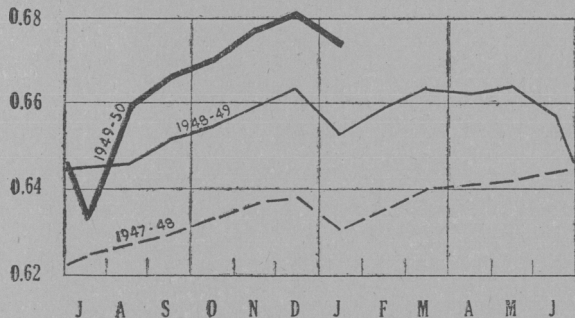
Number Millions. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (EXCL. RURAL and DOMESTIC): AUSTRALIA MALES



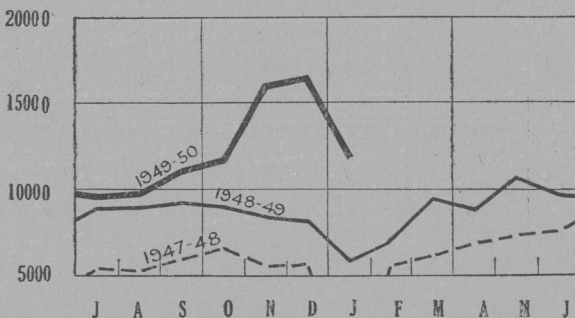
Index No. RETAIL STORE EMPLOYMENT INDEX: AUSTRALIA July, 1941 = 1000



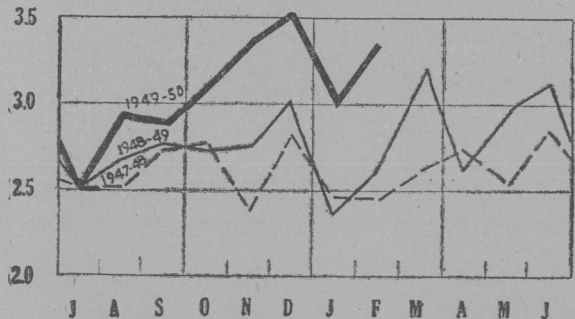
Number Millions. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (EXCL. RURAL and DOMESTIC): AUSTRALIA FEMALES



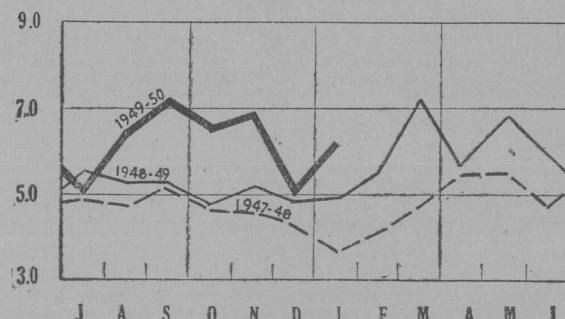
Number. NEW CARS and TRUCKS REGISTERED: AUSTRALIA



£m. POST OFFICE RECEIPTS: AUSTRALIA



£m. VALUE of BUILDING PERMITS: SIX CAPITALS



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" 6. Monthly Bulletin of Oversea Trade Statistics : February, 1950.
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" 29. Vital Statistics : December Quarter, 1949 and Year ended December, 1949 (P.N. 2756).
May 1. Employment Bulletin, No. 99 : February, 1950.